Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS, LITERATURE, NEWS, &C.

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Maine Farmer.

S. L. BOARDMAN, Agricultural Editor.

Agricultural Notices.

Meetings to Occur.

ORONO SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY, at the College Chapel, Orono, Tuesday, March 23d.

WEST WINTHROP FARMERS' CLUB:—Regular Meetings, Tuesday evenings.

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY:—Cumberland Council' Annual Meeting at Arcana Hall, Portland, Tuesday, Feb. 9th.

NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE:—Meeting at Worcester, Mass., Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 26th and 27th.

NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY:—Annual Meeting at Mconian Hall, Tremont Temple, Boston, Tuesday Feb. 2d.

MAINE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE:—Second County Meeting at Wilton, Wednesday, Jan. 27th.

Annual Report of the State College.

The annual report of the Trustees and Faculty of the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, forming a pamphlet of 63 pages, has been presented to the Legislature.

The college has now one hundred and twenty-one students, of which twenty-eight are in the freshmen class which entered last fall. It has a faculty consisting of a President, six professors, an Instructor in Practical Agriculture who is also Farm Superintendent. The professors are all well qualified to give instruction in their several departments; and the institution, considering the many obstacles it has had to contend with, is very well supplied with apparatus and means of illustration. Still with an increasing number of students many of whom desire to pursue special courses—comes an increasing need for more apparatus, models, maps, charts and other means of illustration and education, and the Trustees ask for an appropriation of $4000 for this purpose. During the past year several fine thoroughbred animals of different breeds have been obtained for the farm, and the inventory of the stock now belonging to the Institution foots up over $4000 in value. A new college building to be devoted to purposes of lecture rooms, library, cabinet and other uses is a pressing need at the college, and the Trustees ask for an appropriation of $5000 for the purpose of making bricks the coming season and carrying out other preparations for the construction of such a building. The library now is no longer sufficient for holding the two thousand volumes forming its collection. to which additions are constantly being made; and the cabinet of Natural History has completely outgrown its present narrow quarters—rooms never intended for such purposes—and at the same time the classes are cramped for proper recitation rooms, and a large room for chapel and similar services. The large number of students now in attendance, renders it necessary that additional furniture should be provided for students' rooms—while the additional number of professors needed to give that instruction which the college has promised to give, makes it imperative that the State should add something to the fund of the General Government for this purpose, as it has done in the past. The college furnishes to our young men and women a thorough, liberal and practical education at a moderate cost, giving to all its students an opportunity to practically apply the lessons of the class room, and the means of defraying a part of his expenses by his own labor. It is in fact the peoples' college—the poor man's college, so to speak—and it is to be hoped that the Legislature will enable the Institution to advance in the good course on which it has already made so satisfactory a start, in giving a thorough, practical and scientific education to those belonging to the working classes. It is emphatically a State College, and must never become the child of any sect or denomination. The report of the Farm Superintendent contains very important results of continued farm exeprinents, to which we shall allude hereafter.

Approaching Meetings.

The success attending the holding of the first local or county meeting of the State Board of Agriculture in Penobscot county, warrant the committee in calling another meeting, which will be held at Wilton in Franklin county, on Wednesday Jan. 27th. to continue during the day and evening. This meeting will, we understand, be held in connection with the Franklin County Farmers' Association, the members of which will take part in the proceedings, and all farmers who may attend are invited to take part in the discussions. Papers will be read to be followed by discussions; and among the members of the State Board who will be present we may announce, Z. A. Gilbert. Esq., President of the Board; A. L. Bradbury, Esq., member from Franklin county, and Hon. Hannibal Belcher, member from the State Pomological Society, together with Seward Dill, Esq., and Lorin Adams. Esq., former members of the Board, Mr. S. G. Foster, Secretary of the Franklin Co. Farmers' Association, and Mr. S. L. Boardman of Augusta. The meeting will continue during the day and evening, and it is hoped that all farmers interested will attend and take part in the discussions.

A meeting of the New England Farmers' Institute is also announced to be held at Worcester, Mass., on the 26th and 27th inst., to be addressed by Dr. Geo. B. Loring, Hon. Daniel Nedham, Hon. Chas. L. Flint, and Col. W. S. Clarke, President of the Mass. Agricultural College. It will no doubt call together a large attendance.

A New England Poultry Association.

A number of gentlemen who are interested in the breeding of poultry and who are leading members or officers in some of the most active and influential local organizations of the kind in New England—have issued a call for a convention of gentlemen identified with the poultry interest, for the purpose of organizing a New England Poultry Association. The convention will meet at the Private Parlor of the Parker House, Boston, on Monday evening 28th inst., (during the meeting of the Massachusetts Poultry Exhibition), and all interested in the objects of the proposed society are invited to be present. The meeting is to be entirely preliminary, and as the originators of the movement have only the best good of all interested at heart, no action will be taken hastily, and no *state* has been made up. The call is signed by the names of twenty prominent gentlemen from the different New England States, including that of Albert Noyes, Esq., President of our State Association.

Thoughts on the Poultry Exhibition.

The exhibition of standard and fancy poultry, under the auspices of the State Association which took place at City Hall, Portland, last week, some account of which is given in another place, afforded a most interesting and captivating study not only for all who have a fancy for this kind of stock, but to all in love with the manifold forms and beauties presented in the animate objects of Nature. The collection of birds on exhibition was an exceptionally fine one in every class—in fact with possibly two or three exceptions, where individuals were without doubt placed in the hall by their owners simply to sweep the premiums in a certain class where there was little or no competition—the collection was almost faultless. And it was impossible to witness the large and fine display without a feeling of delight and surprise at the perfection of feathering, symmetry and beauty of outline and almost endless variation of forms, presented for study and comparison. Of course this degree of excellence in the several points of the various breeds, is not the result of hap-hazard breeding, or inattention, or a disregard of well defined principles—but it has been accomplished only by following out those clearly established principles of breeding which have ever and invariably produced the most perfect specimens of animals, of whatever type—the breeding from good healthy stock, the selection of the best specimens for breeding purposes, and attention to the feed, care and general wants of the animals. It is obedience to these rules which produces such good results as were seen in the really perfect birds brought together at Portland last week; exactly such results as follow the application of the same principles in producing splendid cattle or fine horses. And as it is only by care, attention, selection, and the obtaining of new strains of blood that our improved breeds of cattle, sheep and horses are perpetuated—so it is only by following similar rules, that our different classes of poultry are kept up to the highest standard. It may be true to some extent, that these classes of poultry do not possess that fixedness of type which characterizes the breeds of other domestic animals; but every year's effort tends to establish certain characteristics and qualities of breeds, and while this forms a rational means of employment and enjoyment to a large class of people who have the taste and means to carry it out, they are helping to establish permanence of type in the various forms of animal life, are contributing a good share of facts to the interesting questions of the day, and whatever of benefit or advantage comes from their efforts, the people at large are sure to obtain the benefit of. And one thing is most certain, in breeding fowls especially, (the same is also equally true in other lines of breeding) the standard of attainments can hardly be set too high. The intelligent breeder is never satisfied with anything below absolute perfection, and his efforts should be constantly set towards this, however difficult may be its attainments, or however great may be the obstacles that come in between him and the end he has in view. If one man can produce such fine birds as are placed on exhibition here, another with the same skill and care can also produce birds equally as good; and if it is not better to raise such birds than to raise, ordinary, indifferent ones—then we might as well abandon all attempt at improvement, and let things generally take care of themselves. But we are not willing to take or advise such a course. We don't believe in it ourselves, and we are sure we should be hooted at if we recommended it to others. And while we believe that any one of these breeds of fowls are not equally well adapted for all purposes, and that no ordinary farmer or villager can profitably and successfully keep two or three breeds, for different purposes—we are also sure that the time will come, even if it has not already, when there will be leading breeds possessing excellent laying qualities, producing good table fowls, and being all that is desirable for a "family hen." When our breeding in this line produces birds of this kind, there will certainly be ample reason to believe that the "hen fever" has done some good, that the hobbies of fanciers have won some races, and that the efforts of high minded gentlemen interested in this line of breeding have produced results both beneficial and praiseworthy.

But "hen shows" have also a higher mission, and are conducive to better results than can ever be accomplished by producing the largest birds or the greatest number of eggs. They afford genuine and rational amusement for the people, and are truly educational in their aims and ends. There is nothing objectionable in the amusement and pleasure they give; and on this account they are preferable to a circus, and are to be put higher in the scale than horse trots or out door fairs, where there are so many really offensive and objectionable features. There are few prettier objects in Nature than plump looking fowls of the different breeds; and while they add a grace and charm to the lawn, they are certainly far more interesting when viewed in neat cages, at so close a proximity that they may be studied and compared intelligently. The pigeons, swans, California quail, Golden Pheasants and other rare birds, in their variation of forms, beautiful plumage and graceful action, fully repaid the visitor for the time spent at the fair—and we are sure none could go away from it with any other feelings than those of complete satisfaction. We are not certain, even if the gentlemen having the management of this Association had no love for the objects of their care, and no heart in their work, that they could not make it pay, even as a pure feature of public amusement, like a panorama or concert; and it is equally certain that the people who patronized it would have no cause to say they had been humbugged. If ever any show carried out its full programme, by giving the worth of the money asked to visit it. and rendered perfect satisfaction to its patrons, the second exhibition of the Maine Poultry Association is rightfully entitled to this honor.

A Good Appointment.

Hon. Fred Atwood, member of the Senate from Waldo county—and well and widely known as a prominent agriculturist and active business man—has received the honor of chairmanship of the Legislative Agricultural Committee, a position which he will fill creditably and acceptably. Agricultural organizations of whatever kind, and the interests of farmers generally will be faithfully looked after by his committee.

Editorial Notes.

The remarks of our correspondent, Mr. S. G. Foster of Franklin county, in another column, upon the question of the disposition of that part of the State bounty to agricultural societies which has heretofore been given for the "promotion and encouragement of Farmers' Clubs." is hardly in order, since no such requirement is now in force—the Board of Agriculture at its last annual meeting having voted to leave this matter in the hands of the Trustees of the several Agricultural Societies, to be disposed of as they deem best. However, there are some points in his communication worthy of attention, and we hope to bring the same to the consideration of members of the Board by giving it a place. He suggests some excellent objects towards the encouragement of which the money might be well appropriated, and which are deserving the thought of members, between this and the approaching winter meeting.

The Higganum Manufacturing Company of Higganum, Conn., publish a most complete and satisfactory Farmers' Almanac which is sent to any address on receipt of a three cent stamp. While its main object is to give information concerning the standard farm implements and tools manufactured by this Company, it also abounds in useful and practical agricultural reading, making it worth double the price asked for it. The publishers will please accept thanks for their kindly mention of this journal.

A subscriber in the State of Rhode Island who was formerly a resident of Maine, and who is an intelligent horseman, thus writes concerning Thompson's Maine Horses: "I am much pleased with this book, and hope its publication will be continued from year to year, and that breeders will be stimulated to procure the best strains of blood for general use, as well as for the road and track. I was not aware that so many Maine horses had trotted in 30 or better; it is certainly a very good list and will compare favorably with those belonging to any of the noted horse breeding States."

We can safely recommend to all our readers who use kerosene as a burning oil, and who desire to get the best light and greatest safety from so doing—Tessy's Patent Reflecting Burners, which we regard as an absolutely safe burner, as in any instance in which the lamp gets overturned it is extinguished before it touches the floor. The burner is never heated, the drafts of cool air so passing through it that it is always cool. consequently few chimneys are broken by heat; and even if burned low, no offensive odor proceeds from the flame. This burner is now being introduced in Maine, by our friend Mr. John A. Russell, of 126 Exchange St., Portland, who desires agents for its sale in every town.

Communications.

The Hay Crop of Maine.

For the Maine Farmer.

The hay crop of Maine, according to the census of 1870, was 1,053,413 tons; and in 1850, it was 755,889 tons; showing an increase in twenty years of 297,528 tons. This seems a fair advance; and yet it would seem that we ought to raise double the amount we now do. What cotton is to the South, and corn and wheat to the West, hay is to Maine. It is our leading crop; and when we realize the immense importance of this crop to us as a source of income, we should bend all our energies to its increased production.

It has passed into a sort of axiom in agriculture, that "He is a public benefactor, who makes two blades of grass grow where but one grew before." The subject of grass growing is an interesting and important one, and I propose to discuss somewhat briefly, one of the means by which the above axiom may be made a reality.

Farmers scarcely apprehend what their soil is capable of producing. Mr. George Wilkins of this town, raised last year on 4 1-4 acres of land, 17 tons of the best quality of hay. The first crop 10 tons, and the second crop 7 tons. Of course the land had been heavily top-dressed. We cannot all do this; but we can without doubt do better than we generally do. But of one thing we may be sure; we must not, except under the most favorable conditions, remove the after-math. In the early spring-time, and on the revivifying influence of sun, and the vernal showers, the tender grass blade shoots upward. All Nature smiles, and she arrays herself in her beauteous garment. Grass is her natural covering, and she spreads it over her as a mantle. And how beautiful a mantle it is! "Not Solomon in all his glory," was arrayed in drapery so rare and wonderful. With heat and moisture the grass grows rapidly, and soon man appears, and as lord of the domain, reaps and gathers it into his barns. The fields look bare and brown, and have to lament their loss, and for a time almost to give up in despair. But soon Nature arouses herself and says, "Although I have been robbed of my beautiful garment, yet still I know that winter, with its withering frosts and bitter winds, will soon be here, and I must make haste and repair, so far as I am able in the short time allotted me, the loss; so that the tender rootlets that have been nourished in my bosom, may find warmth and protection." And so never despairing, she puts forth her efforts anew, and under favoring conditions, she soon looks as smiling and green as before, and her effort has been a complete success. She now feels that she can bid defiance to the frost king. But no, man,—short-sighted man again appears, and as he surveys the luxuriant aftermath, he rubs his hands and says, "What feed I shall have for my flocks and herds, what butter, what beef, what mutton and wool." And so ignoring the wise provision of Nature for her own protection, and shutting his eyes to the consequences of his own short-sightedness and folly, he lets down the bars, and gives his fields over to destruction. The famed prairies of the West, with their vast stores of fertility, have become so by winter protection and decayed vegetation. And we have the testimony of observing men among us, that fall feeding of grass lands is ruinous; and that it would be far better economy for the farmer to feed his stock at the barn, than turn it upon his mowing fields. By the excessive fall feeding usually practiced, the roots are not only laid bare and deprived of suitable protection, but in the usually wet condition of our fields after the fall rains have set in, the surface poached and the ground hardened by the tread of the cattle; but the tender grass roots are broken, and the plants themselves rendered less vigorous. The practice merits and will receive the condemnation of all thinking, progressive men.

In intimate connection with the matter of fall feeding, is the fence question. This is already, and is yearly becoming more so a serious one. Not only in the cost of material, but the high price and scarcity of labor as well. Under existing laws the building and keeping up of line fences is imperative; and where cattle are allowed to run at large, road fences also. Now in order to do away with the practice of fencing grass lands in the fall, this must all be changed and the whole question left to arrangement among parties. Why should A. who does not practice fall feeding, be obliged to keep up his fences, in order to protect his own fields, and incidentally assist his neighbor B's., who does fall feed, in robbing his fields? A large portion of our hard, rocky pastures, should be allowed to grow up to forests, of which they have too generally been shorn. Our mowing fields are generally too large for our means of improvement, and we should obtain better results by dividing them and turning a portion to pasture. In this country of drifting snows, our road fences should be dispensed with as a matter of economy, and the land cleared of unsightly weeds and rubbish, and cultivated to the edge of the road ditch; we should thus save a large annual outlay in road breaking, and also receive an income from land now worse than useless. For instance, the town of Vassalboro' has 100 miles of public highway. The average annual expense for keeping the roads open to travel in winter, is $3000. Remove the road fences and the cost would be hardly $1000. The improved land on each side of the road-way—say averaging one rod in width, would aggregate 400 acres of land; which at the moderate estimate of one ton to the acre, would yield 400 tons of hay; the net value of which, would more than meet all bills for road breaking. I am aware that among our farmers there is a class that will object to this system, but in the "good time coming," we are confident it will be carried out. When it is done, we shall have taken a step in the right direction, of making "two blades of grass grow, where but one grew before," and we shall in this as in some other questions, prove our title to the proud motto "Dirigo."

W. H. PEARSON.

Vassalboro.

Jersey Cattle at Togus Farm.

For the Maine Farmer.

Register for 1875.

NAME.	H. R.	COLOR AND MARKS.	AGE.	SIRE.	DAM.	BREEDER.
Maharajah, (bull)	794	grey, black points.	April,	71 Rajah,	340 Fleur de lis,	614 John S. Barstow.
Lady Maitland,	1005	Silver Fawn.	May,	94 Comet,	159 Jersey Belle, 2d,	1267 R. L. Maitland.
Maitland,	753	Golden Fawn.	"	"	15 Violet,	do.
Belle,	1858	Reddish Fawn and white.	1865	Charleston,	676 Croquette,	15 H. Kohn.
Buttercup,	1648	Fawn and white.	April,	706 Prince Albert,	818 Jura Maitland,	1267 Francis R. Hayes.
Sandy's,	1854	Dawn.	July,	750 Count de Lyon,	303 Sapphire,	1360 C. Wellington.
Mira,	1861	Nearly solid Fawn.	Dec.	771 Hotspur,	303 Jura Maitland,	(417) Francis R. Hayes.
Vita,	2493	Fawn and white.	May,	1875 Count de Lion,	(585) Jura Lily,	(417) Francis R. Hayes.
Fairie,	3136	Dawn.	"	773 Carlos,	303 Belle,	58 Togus Farm.
Belle Meik,	3133	Fawn, little white.	Feb.,	773 Carlos,	Lelia,	1925 do.
Jessie Keigley,	3132	Nearly solid fawn.	August,	774 Maharajah,	" Belle,	1925 do.
Topsy,	3127	Dawn.	"	"	(12) Sunshine,	681 Imported.
Belle Bellfy,	1239	Grey.	"	"	706 Jura Maitland,	2477 Togus Farm.
Rainbow,	1247	Orange.	"	"	706 Sunshine,	2477 do.
Vilma,		Fawn, flecks on face.	"	"	Vita,	1861 do.
Vivacity,		Fawn, white shoulder.	"	"	Mira,	1858 do.
Vanity,		(heifer) Star, white hind leg.	"	"	Butterfly,	1648 do.
Bonny Kate,		Star.	"	"	Lady Maitland,	1267 do.
		3 per cent.	May 10,	774 Maharajah,		
		Black ankles.	Dec. 14,	"		

Not entered in H. R.

A Letter from Aroostook County.

For the Maine Farmer.

I have been a constant reader of the MAINE FARMER for the last nine or ten years and have obtained much valuable information from it, having been particularly interested in reading Mr. Poor's articles upon wheat culture that have appeared from time to time; for I feel that every bushel of wheat raised in Maine, adds something to our prosperity.

I want to tell my friend Hamlen, whom I knew well and who is one of the best farmers in Kennebec county, of whose wheat crop I see some account in the FARMER of Dec. 12th, that I raised one hundred and ten and one-half bushels of Lost Nation wheat on three acres the past season, on land run out to grass which had never been broke since the first seeding. I took out the stumps and plowed it in the fall of 1872, and in 1873 planted it to potatoes with no dressing except a little plaster. In the fall of 1873, plowed it, and in the spring sowed six bushels of Lost Nation wheat with no manure of any kind except a little plaster again. Now I suppose that very many of the readers of the MAINE FARMER in the older portions of the State will be inclined to doubt this statement; thirty-seven bushels of wheat on plowed land (and no manure) to the acre; but it is a fact, and I will furnish all the evidence necessary to satisfy your readers that this county is the place to raise large crops of grain with good cultivation.

Four years ago I moved from the town of Sidney to this County; I am well pleased with the move every way. There I could plow and till eight or ten acres, and was always very anxious for my manure heaps, because it was manure or no crops. As to privileges here, they are good, and church and school privileges good. I am one mile from church, post office, and eight or ten stores, saw and grist mills, machine shop, starch factory &c. At our school district, (not a village district,) we have one hundred scholars, over three hundred dollars and two schools. If the older portions of the State can show better privileges, they must be in large villages or cities.

HIRAM MORSE.

Lyndon.

Franklin County Farmers' Association.

For the Maine Farmer.

The annual meeting of this Association was held at Temple, Thursday. Jan. 7th, at which the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Lorin Adams, East Wilton; Secretary, S. G. Foster, Wilton; Treasurer, L. H. Farmer, Temple.

In the afternoon, essays were read by S. G. Foster and Lorin Adams, Esq., followed by discussion. Among the more important points presented in the discussion, were the necessity of clean culture, and care in seeding down to grass, that we may obtain a good stand. The grass crop was presented as the most important of all, and to its successful production the others should be made subservient. Top-dressing was advocated as the cheapest method of growing grass, although there was not uniformity as to the time when it should be applied; some recommending to do it immediately after haying, while others would spread the dressing on the snow. It was not considered necessary that the dressing should be clear manure, in fact, it was stated that if a large proportion was dirt, the effect would be equally beneficial. In regard to renovating old pastures, it was recommended to apply ashes or a compost of muck, lime and ashes, immediately after haying. Clean cultivation and generous dressing was recommended, cultivating only so much acreage as we could do strict justice to, and letting the poorer portions of our farms come up to wood.

In some remarks upon orcharding, one gentleman said he had killed the borers by making a box around the infested tree and filling with leached ashes. He had seen no signs of borers since, and the tree had made a vigorous growth. An application of strong lye was said to be certain death to the caterpillar, and not in the least injurious to the tree. The advocates of the diverse systems of plowing or not plowing in the orchard, were about evenly divided. The practical benefits derived from each system, were ably advocated by their respective friends.

S. G. FOSTER.

Bounty to Farmers' Clubs.

For the Maine Farmer.

Looking upon that portion of the State stipend to our agricultural societies, which is under control of the Board of Agriculture, and by it, required to be distributed amongst the farmers' clubs, in the light of a bounty to the clubs—I am led to ask, is this the best disposition to make of it? And without pretending to answer it, will give some facts that have come under my observation and perhaps make a few suggestions.

I have known one Farmers' Club to appropriate part of the money to pay running expenses, and had it lived long enough, would probably have used it all for that purpose. I have known officers of other clubs to apply for, and probably received their proportion of the stipend, after their club was so near dead that it had neglected to hold any meetings. Now in the provision of this article, giving this money to Farmers' Clubs, it is distinctly required that it be used to procure books for the library, or lectures to be delivered before the club, and yet, I hazard the assertion that for the three past years, one-half the money donated to Farmers' Clubs by the Franklin County Agricultural Society, has not been applied to its legitimate purpose, and if this condition of affairs is applicable to the State at large, I should question the advisability of continuing the practice.

The theory is good, and were there the life and energy amongst farmers that there ought to be, the practice would be a most good; but many clubs spring into existence under the stimulus of the bounty, and as the old adage says, "a new broom sweeps clean;" so while the thing is new, the members are interested, attend meetings and all "goes merry as a marriage bell;" but soon the novelty wears off, the interest decreases and frequently at the end of three years from its organization, it may be numbered among the things that were. Farmers' Club has been one of my best teachers, and were the money donated to them, applied to its legitimate purpose, I would not raise the least objection; but looking at the matter from my standpoint, I believe the money would do more good if the agricultural societies were permitted to exercise their discression and expend it either in prizes for essays, or practical agricultural topics to be read at their annual exhibitions, (in place of the address delivered by a lawyer, doctor, or minister, as at present practiced); in conducting some practical experiments, or if the Farmers' Clubs are in a healthy condition, pursuing their work with zeal and ardor, a portion of it might be appropriated to their use.

S. G. FOSTER.

Hillside Farm, Wilton.

That Large Wheat Crop.

For the Maine Farmer.

Answer to Mr. Hamlen.

In the MAINE FARMER of Dec. 12th, Mr. Hamlen calls for a cross-examination on the wheat question. He thinks there was a mistake either in the land or the yield or both. There was a mistake of 20 rods made at the office of the MAINE FARMER. I sent them 266. In cross-examining a witness, we expect to ask many questions in order to draw out the facts of the case and make it more clear. Mr. Hamlen has asked none, so I will answer a few for the benefit of "doubting Thomas." Mr. Grey broke up his land in the spring of 1873, dressed it with about six cords of manure, planted to potatoes, turnips, and beans about equal parts; plowed again last spring, then spread about eight cords of heap manure, taking great care to pulverize the soil and work the dressing in, which is very essential to secure a good crop. The seed was sown the 16th of May. He had six loads hauled with oxen on a rack 22 ft. on the bottom, 7 ft. flare. It took nine hours to thresh it with a good crew, good team, and a good machine. I hope Mr. Hamlen does not think I would send an article to the MAINE FARMER that is not true, accompanied by the names of some of the first men of Montville, Knox and Searsport. The MAINE FARMER is where we look for and expect to find facts; and I am willing Mr. Hamlen should hold me to a strict account for this statement.

Morrill. D. W. MOREY.

There was an error in D. W. Morey's statement as printed in the FARMER of October 18th. I raised ninety one and one half bushels on one acre and two thirds.—There was no cause to cheat in measurement as it was not tolled; it was thrashed by a company machine, I being one of the owners, and measured by reliable men.

I will now state the nature of the soil. It is dark, gravelly loam, broken up in the spring of 1873, planted to potatoes, beans and turnips, dressed with about six cords of green manure from the barn cellar; ploughed again in the spring of 1874, spread on about eight cords of green manure from the barn cellar, harrowed twice with rotary harrow, and sowed May 16th three bushels of seed of the Lost Nation variety; harrowed three times after sowing, bushed and rolled and harvested the 10th of September. I think we farmers ought to raise our own flour, and to prepare our soil to wheat in the best manner possible.

F. A. GREY.

Experience In Seeding Grass Land.

For the Maine Farmer.

With reference to an article in the FARMER of Jan. 9th, 1875, headed "Seeding to Grass," I would like to make a few suggestions.

The great cause of failure in getting a good "catch" I attribute more to the practice of sowing grain upon the land at the time of seeding to grass, than to any other, or perhaps all other causes, as grass seed seldom fails to germinate and grow where it has a fair chance. But if sown with grain the grain starts up first, shades the grass, and if the season is dry absolves the moisture in the atmosphere and the poor grass roots dry up and die. On the other hand if the season is wet, the grain grows rank, perhaps lodges, and the small plants are rotted or choked out. Now as a remedy for all this I will give you a mode of practice I have followed more or less for many years, and have as yet always succeeded in getting a good catch.

First, prepare the land by plowing and harrowing as well as you would for wheat; then brush it down smooth with a brush harrow or brush as some call it, then sow on the grass seed at the rate of one peck of red clover, one peck of herdsgrass seed, and from one to two pecks of red-top seed (as you prefer) to the acre, roll the land down well with a good roller and the work is done. I prefer to do this as early in the season as the land is dry and suitable for cultivation, but have had very good success in making over poor wet land in the drouth of summer, and seeding in August or the first of September, and putting on the land a light coat of top-dressing after rolling in the grass seed. But I think the earlier the seed is sown the less liable it is to kill out the first winter unless sown very late so as not to vegetate before freezing.

H. P.

Monson.

Collections in Entomology.

For the Maine Farmer.

I noticed at the last State Pomological Exhibition a specimen of the apple tree borer and also the bug or beetle, its progenitor. It occurs to me that it would afford much valuable information and be beneficial to our agricultural community if some of our young students who have a knowledge of entomology, would make a collection of our most destructive and also of our most beneficial insects, and have them on exhibition at our agricultural fairs. By so doing much valuable information might be obtained in a short time by our farmers who have not time or the facilities to procure information this subject otherwise. Such collections are on exhibition in France for the benefit of the agricultural community, and are divided into two classes—the beneficial and the injurious. There are also in these collections specimens of insectiverous birds—each bird having attached to its neck a bill of fare of the food which its palate and necessities demand.

M.

Brunswick.

"Dairy Farming and Sheep Husbandry."

For the Maine Farmer.

In your issue for Jan. 9th (No. 6, present volume), I notice a communication from H. G. Abbott with the above heading. Now with all due allowance for Mr. Abbott's larger experience and profounder knowledge, I most certainly differ with him on several points of his article. He asks "can the farmers of Maine afford to produce milk for 3 cts. per quart?" and gives his opinion that they cannot. Three cents per quart being about the average price milk brings at the factory where it is made into cheese. He puts the average of good cows per year at 1500 qts. of milk, and this at 3 cts. would be $45. Then he estimates three tons of hay at $15 per ton $45, and $10 for pasturing $55, as the cost of keeping a cow per year, leaving the cow in debt $10 over what she pays. The manure, calf and whey going to offset cost of tending, milking, &c.

Now in the first place he has estimated the hay too high. Take average feeding hay at the average price for any ten years, and he will have hard work to prove its value to be over $8 in the barn. Take the average cost of pasturing in Maine and it will not be far from five dollars, possibly six. Three tons of hay at $8 per ton are $24; add six for pasturing and we have $30 as the cost of keep of cows on the aveerage of ten years, in Maine. Allow manure, calf and milk during the time the cow is not furnishing milk to the factory—to offset the cost of tending her, and we have $15 profit on the average of cows that furnish milk to cheese factories—and we appeal to those who have tried it if our figures and estimates are not as near, even nearer practical results than his.

We know also that by doubling the cost of keeping the cow—giving her yearly $60 worth of feed, the profit $15 can be doubled and more, making if $30 or over. We also find in the same number of your paper accounts of cows making butter which paid $40 to $60 over cost of keeping by private butter dairying. Here a great deal of labor and perplexity was had that is not had where milk is sold direct to cheese factories; and private dairying is made the more profitable by reason of the withdrawal of so many from it to cheese factory dairying. Private butter dairying is much more profitable than private cheese dairying and it will take at least another season's experience to make patrons of cheese factories believe they are not profitable, or that they fail to return a good percentage of profit. Mr. Abbott concludes by recommending private dairying. raising calves on skim milk, the keeping up of the farm stock and after providing for the working stock, putting the balance into sheep of some medium grade. We endorse all except the private dairying part. The sheep are profitable, but not so much so as the cows, unless in those localities where pasturage is better adapted to sheep than cows. Mr. A. rather insinuates that associated dairying will prove like the Merino sheep fever. We have every assurance by precept and example from other States that such will not be the case, and proof of three years standing, growing vastly in volume each year, that it will not be so here. We hope milk may realize more than 3 cts. per qt. at cheese factories by and by; if so, the profits will be largely increased. We would like to hear from others on this subject.

J. W. LANG.

Brooks.

A Word for Merino Sheep.

For the Maine Farmer.

In his communication to the MAINE FARMER of Jan. 9th, Mr. H. G. Abbott of Vassalboro', makes pretty strong assertions in saying, he "well remembers when the Merino sheep were all the rage a few years since, but now, no man in Maine, would take one of them as a gift."

I wish a space in your columns to correct so broad a statement; as if uncontradicted, it would certainly be an act of injustice to many of the farmers of Somerset and Franklin counties, by whom many of the above named sheep are kept in preference to all others, for the production of wool and mutton. By their many good qualities they gain favor with the farmers over all other breeds. Having bred the Merino sheep for the last ten years, I know whereof I affirm. I made purchases four years ago of Mr. Nahan Cushing of Woodstock, Vt., and so well pleased was I with them, that I made another purchase one year ago last October, of Mr. A. E. Perkins and Ebenezer Bridge of Pomfret, Vt. In reckoning up the proceeds of a flock of thirty-three sheep kept the past year (Merinoes), I find they gave me a return of $220.25, averaging six dollars and sixty cents per head;—all this besides keeping my lambs. I have refused twenty-five dollars per head for some of my lambs, and think from this that I should find no difficulty in giving away Merino sheep.

CHAS. M. GREENWOOD.

Anson.

Agricultural Intelligence.

Meteorological Observations.

An abstract of the Meteorological Observations taken at the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, for the month of December, 1874.

Lat. 44° 53' 10" N. Lon. 68° 38' 57" W.
Altitude above the sea, 134 feet.

Mean temperature,		17.63
Maximum "		44.7
Minimum "		19.1
Mean of warmest day,	(3d.)	38.7
Mean of coldest day,	(15th.)	4.0
Mean per centage of cloudiness.	.57	
Am't rain or melted snow in guage,		1.89in.
Am't of snow,		13.00in.

Direction and force of winds:—N. W. & W., .36; S. W. & S., .20; S. E. & E., .11; N. E. & N., .33.

Mean height of barometer in inches,		29.858
Maximum "	"	30.606
Minimum "	"	29.319

Mean force of vapor sufficient to sustain a column of mercury in height, .093in.
Mean humidity of the atmosphere, .81

The meteorological observations for December were kindly taken by J. R. Farrington, Esq., Farm Superintendent, in my absence.

M. C. FERNALD.

Ring-worm in Cattle.

Will not some of the readers of the FARMER tell me through its pages the cause and cure of ring-worm on cattle. The hair loosens and comes off with a thick kind of dandruff, and the skin looks red for a short time and then becomes white and dry. The parts most affected are about the flank and along the rump, and sometimes on the inside of the fore-legs.

F. A. FITCH.

Truro, N. S.

Officers of Penobscot Agricultural Society.

President, Joel E. Shaw, Hampden; Vice Presidents, H. K. Robinson, Brewer, E. H. Gibbs, Glenburn, O. S. Carter, Etna; Secretary, D. M. Dunham; Treasurer, Albert Noyes; Trustees, A. W. MacMahon, Eddington, Albert Hall, Hermon, E. P. Ferguson, Bangor, S. Peaslee, Orono, T. J. Chase, Orrington; Agent and Librarian, C. A. Fawcett.

Winthrop Dairying Association.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Winthrop Dairying Association, held Dec. 29th, 1874, the following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: J. R. Nelson, President; J. Henry Moore, Sec'y.; Levi Jones, Treasurer; J. R. King, J. J. Tinkham, A. C. Carr, E. H. Norcross, Directors. Voted to make cheese for two cents per pound the next season, it being the same as last year.

Farm News and Notes.

J. P. Putnam of Winthrop raised the past season 185 bushels of Lost Nation wheat on six acres of ground, or 30 1-3 bushels to the acre. There's a good wheat crop for you.

Mr. P. S. Atwood of Dedham, raised the past season ninety bushels of wheat on ten acres of land, from six bushels sowing.

Mr. James. A. Leaman of Truro, N. S., recently butchered three hogs which weighed in the aggregate 1946 lbs.—the respective weights being as follows: one 756 lbs., one 658 lbs., and one 532 lbs.

Woman's Department.

For The Woman's Department.

Another "Thompson Neighborhood."

I taught last winter in the "Thompson Neighborhood." I didn't "board round," and Mr. Thompson wasn't agent; it was Mr. Grumbles, or rather his ambitious wife, who daily gave him instructions and kept his thick head above the crust. By the way, Mr. G. was something of a mental imbecile, his intelligence being slightly below par. If the agent instead of the committee had had the power of engaging a teacher for that district, this feeble testimony would never have been penned. I was continually reminded of my great indebtedness to the town for the pleasure of teaching in that "delightful" place, and for the "enormous pay" I received.

Mr. G.'s son Jake, a lad of 15, was almost as thick headed as his coarse sire. This may be illustrated by the fact that after resorting to all formerly successful devices for four long weeks, I succeeded in giving him a dim insight into the easier half of the multiplication table, though his dullness was lesser than his laziness. After being there a day Mr. G. said to me, "Now, Mary. I allus did believe in edication; I want yaou tew educate Jakey this winter; he's a bright boy and this 'ere his last skule."

Now this was not my ideal of a boarding-place. We had more smoke than heat all through the house, while the staple articles at the family board were fat salt pork, fried black and covered with a thick stratum of pepper; and tea blacker than any ink and strong enough to lift the teapot! I never eat pork or drink with my meals, so I was obliged to subsist principally upon faith for two whole days, till I could induce them to buy a little wheat meal and a few apples. They argued that I'd be "clearer headed" and stronger if I'd "eat poak" and drink tea: that they could "raise poak cheaper than wheat;" that it didn't "take so long to cook it," and other overwhelming arguments were hurled against me spitefully. but with no other effect than to give me more determination to have and maintain my "rights."

Where is the teacher, "Normal" or abnormal who can give instruction in *hygeine* on such a diet as that? Why, the most brilliant among us within two years, could be well fed into idiocy on an exclusive diet of salt pork, pepper and tea. The well tanned mawl of an Esquimaux could not endure such a depraved omnivorous treatment as that. To a large extent that was what the matter was with "Jakey" and his daddy. Mrs. G. visited the neighbors about half the time, where she found a more healthful variety of food, and the mental stimulant of gossip.

I labored hard with my benighted flock, and gave object lessons and instruction on many matters not found in the text-books; consuming the midnight oil in efforts to make plain and interesting my illustrations of the next day's work, till all but the drones maintained a healthy interest, and I thought I was making first-rate headway.

One day Jake Grimsles (and grumble he always would.) told me that he didn't think much of "them air Mormon (meaning Normal,) skules, wid their new-fangled notions. There's my Jakey there, I don't want enny more sich stuffin put in him; he's larnt the airth is raound and flops over like a grinestone, and he oughter wash all over once a week, and not eat fat poak to kip well; that there's rivers in the oshin, and lizzards aint pizen, and that seed taters oughter not be cut, and rum a

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Jan. 23, 1875.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

$2.00 IN ADVANCE, OR $2.50 IF NOT PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF DATE OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Postage Free to all Subscribers.

☞ All payments made by subscribers will be credited on the yellow slips attached to their papers. The printed date in connection with the subscriber's name will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for moneys remitted by him.

☞ A subscriber desiring to change his post office direction or to discontinue his paper, must communicate to us the *name of the office to which it has previously been sent*, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

Collectors' Notices.

Mr. C. S. AYER is now calling upon our subscribers in Lincoln County.

Mr. A. D. FOSTER, of Lakeville, is our authorized agent for Nova Scotia, and will call upon our subscribers in that Province.

Mr. W. S. NOYES, of Saco, will call upon our subscribers in York Co. during the winter.

Mr. J. P. CLARK will call upon our subscribers in Eastern Somerset and Piscataquis counties.

MR. S. N. TABER is now calling upon our subscribers in West Kennebec.

Particular Notice to Subscribers.

We take pleasure in acknowledging a very prompt and general response to our appeal to delinquent subscribers, for which they will, one and all, please accept our thanks. But we are in receipt of letters from a large number, who have been unable to avail themselves of our offer, within the date fixed, and desiring us to extend the time in which to make payment of arrearages. This we have decided to do, and accordingly give notice, that all subscribers who will remit us the amount already due, and one year in advance, at the rate of two dollars per annum, *on or before the Afteenth day of February*, 1875, shall be entitled to the advantage of our previous offer. And our Agents are instructed to settle with delinquent subscribers upon these terms.

Sources of the Nile.

The question of the true source of the river Nile, is one which has engaged the attention of geographers for centuries. Many lives have been sacrificed in the attempt, but until recently all the efforts which have been put forth in this direction, have availed but little toward a solution of the vexatious problem. The lower Nile, which flows through and fertilizes the land of Egypt, was described by the earliest geographical writers and through sacred and profane history, has become familiar to all readers. But the source of this river, so essential to the fertility of the soil of Egypt and hence held sacred by the dwellers on its banks, has long been veiled in mystery. Only a few days' journey southward from the land of the Pharaohs, with its arts and sciences, and early civilization, the country is, comparatively speaking, a *terra incognita*. Situated almost under the equator and inhabited by fierce and warlike tribes, early travellers gave this inhospitable region a wide berth.

But in more recent times, the desire to know more of the physical geography of Central Africa, has increased, and has resulted in several organized efforts, to explore the country around the head waters of the Nile. The labors of Dr. Livingstone are yet fresh in the minds of our readers, and so are those of Sir Samuel Baker. Livingstone had nearly solved the problem to his own satisfaction, but died before he had fully verified his theory. He felt quite certain that his river Lualaba was the Nile, and if so, he would fix its sources about twelve degrees South of the equator, and make it run toward Egypt, by passing through Lake Albert N'yanza. Sir Samuel Baker, even since Livingstone and Stanley explored the north end of Lake Tanganyka, and found rivers at that end running into it, has contended that the outlet of the last named lake was at the north end, through a river running between it and the Albert N'yanza, and also entirely ignoring the fact that the surface of Lake Tanganyka, is lower than that of the Albert N'yanza. Thus the matter stood at the time of the death of Livingstone, who, had he lived a few months longer, would have settled the question at issue, and gained the object in the pursuit of which, he had made such great sacrafices.

Lieut. Cameron of the English Navy, who was sent to Africa to open communication with Dr. Livingstone, has spent some time in that country, and made some important discoveries, a full account of which he has sent to the Geographical Society of England. This will soon be published and will be eagerly looked for by those interested in the subject. Enough has already been made public to show that Lieut. Cameron has completed the work begun by Livingstone, and settled the question at issue between him and Sir Samuel Baker. He made a voyage around the south end of Lake Tanganyka, and found that the outlet of the lake is at the south, through a river called by the natives Lukuga. It is therefore proved that Baker is mistaken, and that there is no connection between this lake and the Albert N'yanza. Dr. Livingstone's theory respecting the sources of the Nile, seems also to have been disproved by Lieut. Cameron, who has satisfied himself that the river Lualaba, described by Livingstone, does not go to either Lake Albert N'yanza or the Nile, but is the Congo.

It is settled therefore, that the only sources of the Nile, are the lakes Victoria N'yanza and Albert N'yanza. Commencing its flow in the former, it goes through the north end of the latter, and then onward to Egypt and the sea. This report of Lieut. Cameron will put the subject forever at rest; but it is a little singular that after all the theories and conflict of opinions upon these subjects, in modern times, the facts contained in this report go to confirm the entire correctness of the statements made by Ptolemy, more than eighteen centuries ago. The work of Ptolemy is really only a re-production of the ancient work on geography, written by Marinus of ancient Tyre, which stated that the sources of the river Nile were two lakes one situated west of the other, nearly under the equator, in the regions connected with the Mountains of the Moon. Modern Geographers while accepting the statement of Marinus, concerning the situation of the Mountains of the Moon, and have located them in all their maps according to his theory, have refused to accept as authority, his statement of the source of the Nile. Had they done so, how much anxiety and suffering, to say nothing of the expense, might have been saved!

What practical good to mankind is to come out of the settlement of this long contested question about the source of a river, we are unable to comprehend. Central Africa can never be colonized, for there are physical difficulties which can never be overcome, and it must ever remain very much as it now is.

It will enable geographers to correct their maps, by making them conform to those drawn by Marinus thousands of years ago, but this cannot be a matter of very great pride to them. African exploration is very much like voyaging in the Arctic regions; it brings out strong, brave men who do credit to the race, but the practical results of all their efforts are by no means commensurate with the hardships they are obliged to endure. The same energy and perseverance directed in other channels, might be productive of vastly more good.

☞ A disastrous fire broke out in Rutland, Vermont, on Thursday, in the store of Chester Kingsley, which, together with the Central House, H. E. Adams's jewelry store and H. W. Kingsley's clothing store, were destroyed. Another in half an hour broke out on Centre street, in Hayward & Thornton's grocery store, which together with Peck & Benjamin's store, and Ryan's store, were consumed. The loss was about $100,000.

CITY NEWS AND GOSSIP. The system adopted for ventilating the State House, works like a charm and fully justifies what we said about it at the time the change was being made. Instead of the stifling, deadening sensation, so apparent before the change, the atmosphere is light and pure, and can be breathed without the liability to headaches and other disagreeable sensations.——With the meetings of the Maine Agricultural and Pomological Societies; the Commission to revise the State Constitution; the Maine Editors' and Publishers' Association; and the State Temperance Convention, Augusta is having a lively week. ——Rev. Mr. Gage will preach at the Winthrop street Universalist Church, Sunday morning and evening. In the evening his discourse will be upon the subject of Capital Punishment.——Rev. W. H. H. Murray delivered his lecture on "Poverty," to a large and appreciative audience, Tuesday evening.——The salary of Rev. Mr. Ecob of the Granite church, has been increased from $2000 to $2500 per annum.——Camp-meeting John Allen has been officiating as Chaplain, at the Soldiers' Home, Togus. ——W. S. Choate, Esq., of this city, came near being suffocated with coal-gas Friday night. He was not able to be out Saturday. ——Thursday morning, the driver of Allen Lambard's team, having left the horse unhitched at the Post Office, the animal started and ran up Water street, through the Kennebec Bridge and to his master's stable. No damage was done.——In the Municipal Court, Thursday, Peter Pray was adjudged guilty of trespass in cutting and hauling wood from the Selden Worthley farm, and was ordered to pay $5 and costs. He appealed.——A lady in this city was recently relieved of a tape-worm, which measured 31 feet.——J. W. Clapp, Esq., is working up a good business with the Berkshire Life Insurance Company.——Mr. Driscо, President of the Editors' and Publishers' Association, was unable to be present at the annual meeting, on account of the extreme cold weather and blocked-up roads.—— Mercury from 14 to 22 degrees below zero Tuesday morning, and still lower Wednesday.——The Maine Centennial Board held a meeting Wednesday evening. Joshua Nye was chosen financial agent. The Agricultural Society chose Z. A. Gilbert to cooperate with the Centennial Board.

☞ The term of Judge Cutting of the Supreme Court, will expire in March, and there are several people who are willing to take his place. Among those whose names are most frequently mentioned in connection with the office, are Artemas Libby, Esq., of Augusta, John M. Goodwin, Esq., of Biddeford, Sewall C. Strout, Esq., of Portland, and Stephen D. Lindsey, Esq., of Norridgewock. We are acquainted with some of these gentlemen, and we intend no disparagement to the others when we say that in our opinion the two first named would make excellent judges. They stand high in their profession, and their appointment would not only add weight and character to the Supreme Bench, but would reflect credit upon the appointing power.

☞ The annual session of the Maine Editors' and Publishers' Association was begun at the Senate Chamber Wednesday evening. In the absence of the President, Rev. Dr. Quinby was called to the chair. The roll of members was called and a large number responded to their names. Several new members were proposed and elected. The committee on the History of the Maine Press was called, and several counties were reported. The necessary committees were appointed and the meeting adjourned to Thursday forenoon. There will be two sessions to-day (Thursday), and this evening a reception at the house of Rev. Dr. Quinby.

☞ President Morrill of the Maine Central Railroad says the directors of the corporation have not the slightest idea of defyng the authority of the state by nonpayment of the tax assessed under the act of the last Legislature. They do claim exemption by virtue of their charter, but if the Supreme Court decides otherwise the tax will be promptly paid. They have been anxious to meet the issue in the courts but have had no opportunity. It will therefore be seen that the position assumed by the directors is entirely defensible and proper.—In fact their duties to the stock-holders would not admit of their pursuing any other course.

☞ The Maine State Pomological Society commenced a session at the State House Wednesday afternoon. The afternoon was spent in a discussion of the fruit best adapted to Maine. In the evening the Corresponding Secretary made his report, after which the committee on best plans for flower gardens made a report. There were five competitors for the prize, a silver vase offered by Mr. S. L. Boardman. The committee awarded the prize to Mrs. Geo. B. Sawyer of Wiscasset. The remainder of the session was devoted to a discussion of floriculture and ornamental gardening.

☞ A writer in the *Journal* complains of the inferior quality of the gas now being supplied by the Augusta Gas Light Company, and judging from "the way it works" with us, we think there is sufficient cause for complaint. A tallow candle would be an improvement on any gas light we have seen in this office for a week or upwards. Not only are its illuminating properties inferior, but it has an exceedingly offensive odor indicating the presence of large quantities of sulphuretted hydrogen. Such gas is a nuisance at best.

☞ The Council having declined to advise the Governor to commute the sentence of John True Gordon, the Thorndike murderer by a vote of five to two, a warrant will be issued for his execution the last Friday in February. So unless the Legislature interposes, there will be two executions at the State Prison during the month of February. We hope the State may be saved the reproach of these judicial murders.

☞ At the recent inauguration of Gov. Dingley, two gentlemen were present who attended the inauguration of the first Governor of Maine, fifty-four years ago. These were Hon. Reuel Washburne of Livermore, and Hon. Robert Martin of Auburn. They have both served several times in the Legislature, and one of them has attended at Augusta on these occasions thirty-two years.

☞ The annual meeting of the Maine Poultry Association was held at the State House Tuesday. Albert Noyes, of Bangor, was elected President. They adjourned to meet in Portland in four weeks, when a Treasurer and Secretary will be chosen. The Society has a cash surplus over liabilities of $1,300. Lewiston bids for the exhibition next year.

LOCAL HISTORY. The history of Castine will be ready for delivery by the first of February.

The History of Wells and Kennebunk by the late Judge Bourne, is in press and will soon be distributed to subscribers.

A history of Lebanon is being prepared by Dr. Samuel W. Jones of that town, which promises to be a work of much interest.

☞ The building erected as an Industrial School for Girls was formally dedicated Wednesday. Ex-Governor Perham, President of Trustees was in the chair, and gave a full history of the enterprise from its first inception to its auspicious opening. Addresses were made by several others. The occasion was a very pleasant one.

PERSONAL. Mr. Levi L. Lincoln has been elected General Superintendent of the Maine Central Railroad, in place of C. F. Hatch resigned. An appointment eminently fit to be made.

☞ In the Senate Thursday, the House order requesting the Governor to grant a reprieve to Wagner, the Isles of Shoals murderer, was refused a passage by a decided majority. The grounds for this action as explained by the speakers were, that it was a matter with which the Legislature had nothing to do, and that the action contemplated by the order, while it would have no binding effect upon the executive, might be construed as an infringement upon the rights and privileges of a co-ordinate branch of the Government. We suspect that the real meaning of the action of the Senate was, that the Governor must assume the responsibility which properly belongs to his office, and either reprieve Wagner, or allow the execution to take place according to the tenor of the death warrant, which was issued sometime ago. In other words, there was to be no shifting of the responsibility from the Executive to the Legislature.

We are inclined to the opinion that the point raised by the Senate was well taken, though we think the question itself was easy of solution. There was every reason why the execution should be postponed until the Legislature could have ample time to discuss the general subject of capital punishment and definitely establish what the penalty for murder shall be. After the Senate refused to share or divide the responsibility of a postponement with the Executive, the Governor with the unanimous advice and consent of the Council, reprieved Wagner for thirty days, or until the third Friday in February.

The action of the House in passing the order, and the refusal of the Senate to pass it, cannot be regarded as any indication of what the sentiment of either branch may be upon the general subject of capital punishment, or as foreshadowing a dead-lock between the House and Senate when the question comes up, because the question at issue bore upon a particular case and not upon the general subject.

The matter of amending the criminal code respecting the penalty for wilful murder, promises to be one of the most exciting subjects that will come before the present Legislature. There is great unanimity of expression that the law should be so amended as to do away with the review of each case by the Governor and Council, as now required, but the great issue will come between those who believe that capital punishment should be retained without the review, and those who believe that imprisonment for life should be substituted for the death penalty.

The law as it now stands is the result of a compromise made some years ago, and renewed several times since, and experience has shown that compromises of this character are never permanent or satisfactory. We desire to have this relic of barbarism swept away, but if this cannot be done, and the Legislature is inclined to retain the strangling clause, let us have it pure and simple and unhampered by such reviews as are required by the present statute. A review by a competent court may be well enough, but otherwise becomes a farce.

THE COLD SNAP. A dispatch from Topeka, Kansas, dated Thursday, says that 21 men had been brought to Dodge City who were found frozen and in a helpless condition on the plains. Some have since died, and those alive are badly crippled. Mr. Van Tress, a member of the Legislature had both of his legs frozen while attempting to reach the Capitol, and it is feared that they will have to be amputated. The cold spell is the severest ever known in Kansas and on the plains.

Dispatches from all parts of the northwest report extremely cold weather. In some portions of Dakota, it is reported that cattle are freezing to death, and great suffering among the settlers on the borders of the Western States.

From Helena in Montana, comes a report that on the night of the 14th, the mercury in the thermometers froze. Small quantities of mercury in phials became congealed, and proof whiskey placed out of doors, froze solid in half an hour. Four Chinamen, who left town at 4 P. M. on Tuesday, were found Wednesday morning about half a mile from the town, frozen to death, and the whiskey which they had with them in small kegs was frozen solid. A report from Phillipsburg, Montana, states that two Chinamen were frozen to death at that place.

☞ Ballotings for United States Senator took place in several State Legislatures Tuesday, but resulted in no choice. In Massachusetts the second ballot stood as follows: Dawes, 93; Abbott, 71; Hoar, 43; Abbott, 16; Scattering 7. In Rhode Island Burnside, 43; Dixon, 31; Barstow, 15; Scattering, 15. In Minnesota, in the Senate, Ramsey, 18; Davis, 8; Donnelly, 12; Scattering, 2. In the House, Ramsey, 42; Donnelly, 41; Davis, 16; Scattering, 7. In Tennessee, in the Senate, Johnson, 6; Stephens, 6; Brown, 3; Bate, 4; Scattering, 6. In the House, Johnson, 21; Stephens, 11; Bates, 11; Scattering, 20. On Wednesday Mr. Dawes was elected Senator in Massachusetts by 5 majority.

☞ The annual meeting of the Maine State Agricultural Society commenced at the State House Wednesday afternoon, President Prince in the chair. The Society passed the following vote: "That we do not deem it expedient to invite the New England Fair at present." It was voted to ask the State for a stipend of $3000. The question of the time and place of holding the State Fair the present year, was referred to the Executive Committee with instructions to report at an early day. During the discussion, that part of the Governor's Message relating to the report of the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, was severely criticised.

☞ We have received from Harper & Brothers, publishers through Bailey & Noys, Portland, a copy of Mr. Gladstones pamphlet reviewing the Vatican decrees and generally arraigning the Papacy, which is having a remarkable circulation. Already 360,000 copies have been sold in two edition, and Mr. Gladstone is undoubtedly the most generally read author of modern times. In the political, as in the social heart of the English nation there lies a feeling which the cry of "no pppery" is ever able to awaken to power. Mr. Gladstone has built for himself a party which might easily return him to the prime ministry, were it not for the ultra Catholicism of Ireland.

☞ On Tuesday of last week, the Grand Jury for the county of Cumberland, brought in an indictment against every hotel keeper in Portland, for keeping liquor nuisances. The hotel proprietors have since had a meeting, when a resolution was passed asking the Portland Board of Trade to memoralize the Legislature, for a modification of the present liquor law, to enable them to sell liquor to their guests. They intimated that unless the request was complied with, their hotels would be closed to the public.

☞ The steamer Georgia, from Halifax for Portland, went ashore on the Triangles near Tenant's Harbor on Wednesday night of last week and was a total wreck. All the passengers were taken off and saved. The cargo was lost. The Georgia was built in England as a blockade runner during our late war and was leased to the Portland and Halifax company. She was valued at about $100,000. Her cargo was light.

☞ A correspondent informs us of the death at San Francisco, of Prince B. Lewis, formerly of Vassalboro'. He followed the sea for many years, coasting between Hallowell and Boston. Capt. William Lewis of Vassalboro, is a brother of the deceased, who was much respected by all who knew him.

Maine Legislature.

In the Senate Thursday, the House order requesting the Governor to reprieve Wagner, was refused a passage. Mr. Atwood introduced a bill relating to insurance and the office of Insurance Commissioner. Referred to the Committee on Mercantile Affairs and Insurance. This bill provides for the abolition of the office of Insurance Commissioner, and transfering the duties of the same to the office of Secretary of State, and increasing the salary of that officer $500.

The reports of the Trustees of the Agricultural College and of the Directors of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum at Hartford, were received and referred.

In the House the usual Memorial from Geo. M. Weston was referred to the Judiciary Committee. Among the numerous petitions presented and referred, was that of the Continental Mills for a reduction of capital stock; also for the incorporation of the St. Omer Commandery of Knights Templars at Waterville.

On Friday in the Senate a bill repealing the resolves of 1874, abolishing the office of Land Agent, and reviving that office, and which the House had passed to be engrossed, was referred to the Committee on State Lands and State Roads. An order was passed that the Senate proceed to vote for United States Senator on Tuesday at 11 o'clock.

In the House a communication was received from the Secretary of the Chicago Board of Trade, transmitting memorials requesting the passage of a law requiring that all persons doing business under a firm name within this State, to register the same, together with that of each individual member composing the firm; also suggesting the passage of a law holding railroad companies responsible to the power that gave them existence, and to hold them in check in any attempt at the exercise of unjust or arbitrary powers; that companies shall be required either to assume the direct and entire control and responsibility of the whole business of their lines, or open it to the competition of all freight lines that might seek to undertake it; that they shall be held responsible, when transporting grain in bulk, for the delivery of the same quantity they receive.

Among the bills presented was one to extend the time for building the Penobscot Bay and River railroad; for incorporation of the Cumberland Farmers' Club, and for the incorporation of Talmadge plantation as a town. Both branches adjourned over to Monday.

No quorum was present in the Senate Monday, and an adjournment was had without transacting any important business.

In the House on motion of Mr. North, it was ordered that the Committee on Insane Hospital inquire into the expediency of amending or repealing chap. 187 of the public laws of '74, relating to idiotic persons in the Insane Hospital. The Judiciary Committee has made the following appointments: Friday, 29th inst., hearing on the capital punishment question, in the hall of the House. This will probably be the only hearing before reporting a bill. Wednesday next for the consideration of Railroad tax. The division of the city of Auburn will be considered on the 26th. The Montville and Liberty division cases will be considered on Feb. 2d.

The committee on Banks and Banking will report a bill assessing a tax on the whole deposits in the banks, instead of the average deposits, as now; to make the tax payable in 45 days from assessment; prohibiting assistant treasurers of other banks acting as cashiers of savings banks.

The Committee on Agriculture have before them the matter of equalization of standards, so that they shall conform to the United States standards.

A large number of members attended the Poultry Exhibition at Portland last week.

The subject of railroad tax came before the committee Wednesday afternoon, which brought together some of the leading railroad men in the State.

The business in the Senate Tuesday was mostly routine. The Senate Chamber was tendered to the Editors and Publishers for Wednesday evening and Thursday afternoon. Mr. Emery was excused from serving on the Committee on printing and binding, and Mr. Atwood of Waldo, was substituted.

The Joint Special Committee on the Governor's message made the usual assignments. Mr. Hamlin was elected United States Senator, the vote standing 27 for Hamlin and 3 for Talbot. In the House the ballot stood as follows: Hamlin, 84; Talbot, 50; Perham, 3; Gen. Chamberlain, 1. Passed to be enacted an act to amend the charter of the Portland & Ogdensburg Railroad.

Mr. Buck of Orland, presented a bill designed for the protection of the laboring man. It provides that whenever a person has a just claim for labor or material in the construction or repair of a railroad, to the amount of $10 or more, the railroad company shall be liable and held to pay the person performing such labor, or the person furnishing such material. This bill is intended to protect the laboring man against peculiar hardships, that they are sometimes obliged to suffer at the hands of dishonest contractors; and will oblige railroad companies to be very careful with whom they make contracts.

A message was received from the Governor giving a detailed statement of the expenditures of the State during the year 1874, in order, at he states, that the Legislature may have a full understanding of the nature and extent of the disbursements for every public oeject, and thereby be able to reduce the appropriations wherever, in their judgment, it may be done without injury to the public interests. The message says that inasmuch as this State has never had an Auditor or Comptroller charged with the special duty of auditing bills and claims, and keeping a thorough system of accounts, with a view of reporting to the Legislature the expenditures in detail, it has been difficult to analyze the disbursements entirely satisfactory. The Governor recommends as follows: The abolition of teachers' Institutes; a repeal of the act requiring the public laws to be published in certain papers; limiting the duties and compensation of the messenger to Governor and Council; to determine by law the amount of stationery which each member shall receive; that the compensation of the subordinate officers of the House and Senate be fixed by law; that county attorneys be paid by the counties, and also the expense of arresting fugitives from justice; to discontinue the appropriation for the transportation of public documents; that the report of the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture be reduced in size and distributed in pamphlet form: a change in the law which will not only make the Insurance bureau self-sustaining, but a source of income to the State; that the supplies of stationery required by the State officers and the Legislature be purchased by some State officer, under the direction of the Governor and Council. The following is a recapitulation of the detailed statement contained in the message, of the expenditures of 1874:

War debt and aid to soldiers' families,	$708,043 60
Educational expenses,	434,029 41
Total war and educational,	$1,142,073 01
Special and exceptional appropriations for College of Agriculture, Gen'l Hospital; Industrial School, roads, &c.,	$60,394 00
Legislative department,	63,937 15
Governor and Council,	11,391 90
Law department,	38,778 25
Secretary's office,	8,710 15
Treasurer's office,	7,581 49
Adjutant General's office,	6,295 87
Land Agent's office,	3,810 17
Library,	2,766 20
State House,	11,709 53
Transportation documents,	1,537 04
State institutions and charities,	129,928 42
Restocking rivers with fish,	5,676 36
Military purposes,	11,315 88
Agricultural,	18,049 79
Miscellaneous expenditures,	5,413 93
	$326,792 13
Total expenditures,	$1,529,259 13

A petition signed by several persons who are interested in fish culture was presented for the incorporation of the Maine State Association for the Protection of Fish. J. H. Kimball of Bath originated the movement, and the object is to impose certain restrictions upon catching and killing fish and shell fish, disseminating information relative to fish culture, etc. The petitioners ask that they may be allowed to hold real estate to the value of $50,000, and personal estate to the value of $25,000.

A. P. Gould, Esq., having declined to serve on the Constitutional Commission, Artemas Libby, Esq., of Augusta, has been appointed to fill the vacancy.

In the Senate Wednesday the committee on towns reported leave to withdraw on the part of petitioners to be set off from Bluehill and annexed to Surry. The committee on financial affairs reported that they had examined the affairs of the State Treasurer and found them correct.

In the House the Committee on County Estimates was announced. In convention of the two branches the President of the Senate announced the election of Hon. Hannibal Hamlin as United States Senator for the term of six years from the 4th of March next.

KENNEBEC COUNTY ITEMS. Scarlatina is prevalent in Gardiner.——Prof. Allen of the Maine State College is spending a few days at Kent's Hill. Lucy Stone is expected soon to lecture before the Adelphian Society; also, W. H. H. Murray before the Calliopean Society.——On Tuesday afternoon last, Wm. Gilbert of Gardiner, started with a load of crackers for Augusta. Having disposed of his load, he left Augusta for home about six o'clock. He says he did not feel very uncomfortable with the cold at first, but the last he can recollect was passing along through Hallowell, about opposite where the Hallowell bridge once stood. When the team arrived in Gardiner, Mr. Gilbert was found insensible, the result of severe cold.——The Gardiner Reporter says that Edmund Spear of Gardiner, died very suddenly last week.——Rev. Eugene Melnotte Grant, recent pastor of the Universalist parish in Tidionte, Penn., has received and accepted the pastorate of the Universalist societies in Waterville and West Waterville, and will enter on the labors in his new field Jan. 24th.——The Fairfield Chropicle says the Maine Central offices will probably be removed to Waterville, after the annual meetings.——Capt. Geo. W. Chase, of Gardiner, received an offer this week, by parties from abroad, of $1500 for his seven-year-old gelding, "Kennebec Boy." Capt. C. "couldn't see it," however, as he likes to drive a good horse himself occasionally and thinks he now has one. The horse is of Flying Eaton stock.——Wednesday night, Miss Caroline Flagg attempted to committ suicide at her sister's house in Waterville, by cutting a deep gash. A doctor was immediately summoned and dressed the wound, and she will probably recover.——Wood sells for $6.00 per cord in Gardiner.——A town meeting was held in Winslow, to vote upon the question of annexation to Waterville, and the result was 160 nays to 20 yeas. ——The annual meeting of the Maine State Stock Breeders' Association is to be held in Waterville, some day near the close of January.

☞ A correspondent of the Boston *Herald* says that last fall a man calling himself Coleman went to Brownfield, accompanied by a woman and a girl about six years old. He engaged board at a Mr. Hascomb's stating that the woman was his wife. Shortly after the woman gave birth to a child. The mother lived eight days, and before she died she gave the child to Mrs. Hascomb. Coleman had the body of the mother prepared for burial, and, with the girl and remains, took the car for Amesbury Mills, Mass., his alleged home. Before reaching there he left the girl in care of the conductor and left the train. The child and corpse reached their destination, where the authorities took them in charge. An examination revealed such facts as raised a suspicion that there might have been foul play in the woman's death, and a detective was sent to Brownfield to look up the case. It was ascertained that Coleman returned to Portland, stopped at the City Hotel and then went east, where it is rumored he has a wife and several children. The public are anxiously awaiting further developments.

☞ The museum of relics at Pilgrim Hall in Plymouth, Mass., has recently been enriched by the addition of all the articles found and brought away from Florida, by Capt. A. M. Harrison, of the U. S. Coast Survey, during the winter of 1873-4. Capt. Harrison obtained permission of the authorities at Washington to make this temporary disposition of the articles, which are of great interest as aiding to determine questions of the early history of that portion of our country, and belonging to a period more remote than that with which any other section is connected. Among those relics are several skulls which were found several feet below the surface of the ground, and are supposed to be the remains of some of the Spanish soldiers who followed De Soto.

☞ A correspondent of the *Whig* writing from Exeter, Me., in speaking of the grain crop, says that Mr. F. W. Hill has threshed the past season sixty-one lots of grain, aggregating 5,607 bushels; oats and peas 3,885 bushels; barley, 160 bushels; wheat 1,662 bushels, giving as an average to each farmer threshed for, 25 1-2 bushels of wheat, equal to about five barrels of flour. These were not selected lots. Mr. Hill himself raised 175 bushels of nice wheat, the flour of which is far better than the average brands of Western flour and he considers it the most profitable crop he can raise. He thinks this amount might, with very little encouragement and energy, be doubled the next year by every one of these farmers.

☞ The *Press* says that the firm of Geo. Stinson & Co. sent to the post-office during the last week fourteen hundred and thirty-five (1435) letters to be registered, which, in addition to the local letters and the large number passing through the office in transit, has made business brisk for the registered letter clerks. Stinson & Co's letters were all sent to publishers of different parts of the United States, and contained money for advertising, from the benefits of which Stinson & Co. will undoubtedly add to their already large business, as they evidently know how the thing is done.

☞ Mr. Whitelaw Reid of the New York *Tribune*, having been summoned to Washington to testify before the Subsidy Committee, was arrested at the instance of ex-Governor Shepherd for libel. He was bailed by the wealthy banker Corcoran, and was again arrested on complaint of another member of the late District Government. When the last arrest was made Reid was dining at the House of Speaker Blaine.

☞ It is reported that Edwin Booth the great tragedian, has become insane in consequence of his financial misfortunes. Insanity is hereditary in the Booth family. Junius Brutus Booth, the father of Edwin and John Wilkes, was afflicted with periodical insanity, especially in his latter years. John Wilkes is supposed by some to have been insane when he murdered President Lincoln, which is certainly a very charitable view of his offense.

For the Maine Farmer.

Southern States.

In wandering among the sleepy towns, the myriad of log cabins and the grass-grown fields of the South, it is refreshing to occasionally stumble upon one of those grand old mansions—a relic of the days of prosperity. A long avenue lined with cedars leads up to the mansion, which sits in the centre of a sloping lawn shaded by noble oaks. A broad piazza extends across the front, reaching to the eaves and supported by double columns. There is sufficient shrubbery here. The balconies are broad, the halls broader, and the welcome is cheerful and hearty, whether from old residents or new comers from the North. The rooms are immense and each one contains a huge fire-place. Stoves are at a discount, consequently the Rising Sun polish has a small trade here. The wainscoting and mantels are curiously carved with flowers and figures and the arches over the doors and windows encircle raised images of ships and sailors and soldiers all chiselled out by hand. The walls are adorned with paintings of the heroes of colonial days—dim shadows of the Sumters and Lees, growing grimmer as the years roll round. Many plantations have changed hands since the war, which reduced the owners from wealth to straightened circumstances. Often do we find opportunities to extend sympathy to these unfortunates who were drawn into the support of the Southern cause by associations only. Some of them will never cease to mourn over their lost fortunes which have been swept away in a few years. They have not the courage to strive for another and hence no enthusiasm in the progress of their new South. Let us exercise forbearance and a spirit of generosity towards them. Let us "put ourselves in their places" and consider the results of years of custom and influence which surrounded them, without prejudice. They open wide their doors to strangers; they are willing you should come to their sunny land and share with them the advantages of climate and soil. I am speaking of the people of the Carolinas. We hear no echoes of such sentiments as are openly expressed in the streets of New Orleans. Even the former "owners," whom tradition depicts such cruel men, quietly settle into the new system of affairs and treat the negro with some degree of respect. The readiness with which the people of recent antagonistic ideas mingle together, fortell that in the near future we shall see the whole people of the South moving on with one mutual interest—to improve their impoverished country and elevate all around them. The grange organizations are doing much in this important work; they bring the people together to discuss and better their mutual interests. In North Carolina there are already three hundred granges, though most of them are but a year old.

The resources here are groaning for development; they need the aid of capital; they require the assistance of industries and skilled mechanics, but more than all do they need the economical, thrifty management of the Northern farmer. Countless streams are waiting the time when they shall cause the hills to resound with the busy hum of spindles; the noble forests of oak and pine and hickory are ready for the woodman's axe and the workshop, sufficient to supply the South with all the agricultural implements and household furniture that she may need for years to come; thousands of idle acres willing to respond to the call of the farmer's labor, and stores of turpentine that might be exchanged for the much needed article bearing the name of "greenback!" Instead of the dilapitated country and its slow, indolent population, we ought to see her valleys and hillsides dotted with cosy, social homes, teeming with the bustle and clatter of a prosperous activity. Under a sun which smiles alike on the orange, the fig and the vine; beneath skies which send copious rains throughout the year, and have a natural and easy access to the best markets of the Atlantic coast—surely this is a land that should be one of the brightest spots in our wide domain. If the unceasing tide of emigration which flows to the West would turn its course for a while into this favored clime, it would find as good if not better fields for progress. In the place of being separated hundreds of miles from old homes and friends, they could here have cheap and frequent communication with their native place. The products of their labors would be within easy reach of the great communities of consumers. But many new comers are apt to forget their former system and customs. They find labor very cheap and think it easier to follow in the old ruts which slavery made than to obliterate them forever.

The area occupied by cotton is less than one-fortieth of the surface of these States; it is but one-thirteenth of the territory actually occupied as farms. Much of the land is unadapted to cotton either by reason of elevation or of soil. Competition with the sea-islands in oranges and bananas in Florida, and with the North in apples and other fruits, on the table lands of the Alleghanies. More than half of the cotton exports is paid for imports of sugar, which should all be grown in these States. The demand of the world for oils—cotton, rape, palmi christi and many others—is large, and prices are remunerative, and this section is well adapted to their production. Even the forest lands which are covered with wild grasses are worth in flesh and wool half the value of the cotton crop. And still will they persist in making this a specialty, and retard the improvement of the South.

Closely identified with each and every interest of the South is the condition of the negro. If she progresses, the negro must improve with her. If the colored population of the Carolinas should pour in upon New England to-day, would not every one then awake to the importance of doing something for them? There should not be such a feeling of indifference on this momentous question because one is not brought face to face with it. Come here and see what their former masters are doing for them, furnishing teams and seed and land on credit to those who don't own a home of any kind; they give them an opportunity to work and acquire for themselves an independence of their own, but they don't improve their chances. Why not? Because they have no natural energy and ambition, and will not progress until they are pushed ahead. Compulsory education must be rigidly enforced here; the children should be made to attend school at least two-thirds of the time. The work which they do in the cotton fields is no consideration for the deplorable ignorance that exists among them. We must educate the rising generation as quickly as possible. Instead of giving money and time for the heathen of distant lands, let us devote it to these needy masses in our midst. It is customary to apply the term "heathen" to the Chinese, but they are far the superior of the two races, both in intellect and capability! While admitting that the Southerners might have done more for the negro since his freedom, it is only fair to claim that they have paved the way for his advancement. Let the people of the North take an interest in sending books and teachers to them, and building school-houses, and we shall soon see an encouraging change. Don't infer from my preceding letter that painted labels, restricting the movements of the black race, are to be seen everywhere. There is a sphere open to them larger than they can yet fill—many more comforts within their reach, would they but put forth a vigorous hand and help themselves.

In a land where Nature requires little aid compared with the work expended upon the rocky soil of New England, is there not some considerable cause for disappointment? But instead of dwelling upon the little which has been accomplished in the last ten years, let us consider it a question of national importance and urge measures to be adopted and enforced that will show a great encouragement within another decade. We do not desire to run down the black race but present their present situation as a picture that ought to receive the proper attention which it deserves—a question that affects not only the negro but the white people of every portion of our country. BARKUS.

Items of Maine News.

Diphtheria is prevalent at Fort Fairfield.

Col. Harrison Lowell of Biddeford, died, very suddenly Wednesday night.

Five prisoners attempted to break out of the Saco jail Friday night, but were unsuccessful.

Gen. Peleg Wadsworth, an old and prominent citizen of Hiram, died in that town Sunday, aged 81 years.

On Monday morning the harbor of Winterport, for the first time in many years, was frozen over.

There were 287 committals to the Bangor jail during 1874 of which 130 were for drunkenness.

A little daughter of Charles Thompson of Rockland, was seriously injured Saturday by being impaled on a picket fence.

Judge Derby of Saco, has completed a history of Fraternal Lodge No. 55 of Masons, of Alfred.

The Little Blue school opened its winter session Jan. 12. Pro. Kelsey is assisted by A. B. Herrick, A. B., a graduate of Bowdoin.

Those wide-rimmed wheels of Hancock county have been rolled into the Legislature once more.

Hon. C. R. Ayer of Cornish, says that in Limington over four hundred persons have signed the pledge.

The ice caught across Belfast Harbor Sunday morning, the first time this winter, but it all went out on the ebb and tide.

Charles A. Eastman has been expelled from the Bangor Theological Seminary as an imposter.

The house and outbuildings in Monticello, owned by W. R. Folsom, were destroyed by fire recently. Loss $3500; no insurance.

A Fairfield youth announces that he will give a chromo to the young lady who will take him "for better or for worse." Who speaks?

Wm. Simonton, son of George Simonton of Rockport, a young man about 21 years of age, cut his throat at Belfast a few days since.

Mrs. Maggie Kenniston, of Nobleboro, who poisoned herself recently by taking a freckle compound, died from the effects on Monday.

The new Methodist church at Rockport was dedicated on Saturday afternoon. Rev. J. O. Knowles of Rockland, preached the dedicatory sermon.

George Osborn made himself generally disagreeable in William Osborn's harbor shop in Saco, and Osborn pricked him with a penknife. No arrests.

The Franklin Lodge of I. O. O. F. have completed their new hall in Farmington, and now meet at the place. The hall is large and commodious and elegantly furnished.

The death of Isaiah Wentworth, formerly busines manager of the Shaker society in Poland, occurred at Thompsonville, Conn., Jan. 10th. He was 60 years of age.

Patents issued to citizens of Maine during the past week are as follows: Fireman's shield, Elijah Lowe, Bangor; stoves,

The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

The Markets.

Brighton Cattle Market.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 20.

At market for the current week—Cattle 2550; Sheep and Lambs 3352; Swine 5,575. Number of Western Cattle 2330. Northern Cattle and Working Oxen and Milch Cows, 175. Eastern Cattle 64.

BEEF CATTLE—Prices per 100 lbs. live weight, extra quality @7 50@8 00; first quality @6 75@7 25; second quality @6 25@6 50; third quality @5 25@6 00; poorest grade of coarse Oxen, Bulls, &c. @3 75@5 00.

BRIGHTON HIDES—9@9c ₱ lb.; Brighton Tallow 6@6c ₱ lb.

COUNTRY HIDES—8@c ₱ lb.; Country Tallow 5@c ₱ lb.

CALF SKINS—14@15c ₱ lb. Sheep and Lamb Skins $1@1 50 each.

The supply of Cattle from the West was larger than that of one week ago; the quality was not quite so good upon an average. Cattle cost full as high at the West as they did one week ago. Prices obtained here have not been much, if any, different from those of our last quotations. The trade has been very fair, butchers in several instances buying large lots. Some of the best lots were sold at our highest quotations. There were but few Northern Cattle brought in, most of them being sold at Watertown.

WORKING OXEN.—Trade for Working Oxen has been dull. A few pairs each week is all the market requires during the winter months. We quote sales of 1 pr. 5 th 6 ft, live weight 3200 lbs @190; 1 pr. 7 th, 2800 lbs, @160; 1 pr, 6 ft 8 in, 2890 lbs, @190; 1 pr, 6 ft 6 in, 2550 lbs, @145; 1 pr, 6 ft 7 in, 2400, @140.

STORE CATTLE.—Yearlings @11@12 25; two year olds @15@27; three year olds @25@45 ₱ head. Many of the small Cattle that are in a fair condition are sold for Beef.

MILCH COWS.—Extra $55@95; ordinary $25@50; Store Cows $18@45 per head. There are but few extra or fancy breed of Cows offered in market for sale, most of them being of an ordinary grade. Prices of Milch Cows do not vary much from week to week. Good Cows sell well at fair prices.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.—From the West there was a light supply, all owned by butchers, costing landed at Brighton from 6¾@7¾c per lb. From the North the supply was fair, prices ranging from 5½@7c per lb.

SWINE—Store Pigs, wholesale 7@8c per lb; retail 8@9c per lb. Fat Hogs 8@9 in market; prices 8@8½c per lb live weight.

Wool Market.

BOSTON, Jan. 20.

We have to notice a quiet but firm market for Wool. Manufacturers continue to purchase only for immediate wants, and holders are not disposed to make any concession to effect sales. The sales include 50,000 lbs Ohio and Pennsylvania at 53@57c; 50,000 lbs Michigan at 51@53c; 100,000 lbs Western and other fleece at 48@52½c; 40,000 lbs combing and delaine selections at 57@62½c; 75,000 lbs unwashed and unmerchantable fleeces at 37½@43c; 270,000 lbs super at 53¼ pulled at 40@52½c, up to 55@62c for choice lots of Eastern and Maine supers; 350,000 lbs Californin at 17@28c for fall and 27½@30c for spring; 150,000 lbs pulled washed at 55@57c; 70,000 lbs scoured at 46@81 06; 14,000 lbs noils at 40@60c; and 12,000 lbs sorts at 27@28c per lb.

Boston Market.

BOSTON, Jan. 20.

FLOUR AND GRAIN—The demand for Flour is steady but moderate, and prices remain about the same; we quote:

Western Superfine at $4 25@4 50; common extras at $4 75@5 00; Milwaukie and Minnesota extras at $5 25@6 25; white Wheat Ohio, Indiana and Michigan at $5 50@6 50; Illinois at $6 00@7 00; St. Louis at $5 75@6 00 ₱ bbl. Southern Flour is quiet at $4 75@8 00 ₱ bbl. for common extras and choice family; and fancy Minnesota at $7 50@9 00 ₱ bbl. Corn is quiet at 88c per bushel, at 40@52½c, up to 55@62c for choice lots of Eastern and Maine supers; 350,000 lbs Californin at 17@28c for fall and 27½@30c, for spring; 150,000 lbs washed at 55@57c; 70,000 lbs scoured at 46@81 06; 14,000 lbs noils at 40@60c; and 12,000 lbs sorts at 27@28c per lb.

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New York Market.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.

COTTON—Sales——bales—middling uplands @15½.

FLOUR—Sales 12,645 bbls.—State @$3 20@5 20; Round Hoop Ohio, @5 10@6 85; Western @4 50@5 75; Southern @5 00@4 75.

WHEAT—Sales 68,000 bush. No. 2 Milwaukie, @1 11@1 11½; No. 3, @1 07@—; No. 1, Chicago, @1 21@1 31; No. 2, @1 06@1 09; No. 2, Mixed, @1 44; No. 3, @1 30; Winter Red, @1 25@1 28; Amber, @1 28; No. 1, Iowa, @1 08@1 25; White Michigan, @1 30@1 31; Winter Western, @1 25@1 28.

CORN—Sales 58,000 bushels. Western 86@88½.

OATS—Sales 33,000 bushels—Western 66@67½.

PORK—Sales 100 bbls. New Mess, @19 50@19 75.

LARD—Steam, 13½; Kettle, 14c.

SUGAR—Refining, 8@8½; Porto Rico, 7¼@8; Cuba, —@7¼; Havana White, 9½.

Gold and Stock Market.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.

Gold 112½.

Money 2½@3 per cent.

United States sixes (coupons) 1881 118½; 5-20's 1862, 114½; 1864, 116½; 1865, 118½; 1865 (January and July), 117½; 1867, 118½; 1868, 118½; New 5's, 114; 10-40's (coupons), 115½; Currency, 118½.

Augusta City Market.

THURSDAY, Jan. 21.

APPLES—Not much doing in apples during the past week, although the price is unchanged; Nice no. 1 fruit being in fair supply at $2 00@2 25 ₱ bbl.

BUTTER—Pub butter, of good quality, is plenty at 32c ₱ b; choice June and September make, in balls, 35c per b.

BEANS—Pea and Yellow Eyes at $2 50 per bush.

CHEESE—Factory 14c at wholesale; domestic 12@14c.

FLOUR—Superfine to common extra $6 50@7 50; Good brands at $7 50@8 00; choice Western @8 50; St. Louis favorite brands @9 00@11 00.

GRAIN—Corn @1 10; oats 65c; barley and rye, nominal.

HAY—Market fairly supplied; sales of choice loose made the past week at $14 00. Straw $7 per ton.

HIDES AND SKINS—Hides, 8c; calf skins, 13@15c; wool skins and lamb skins 75c@1 25.

LIME—@1 30 ₱ cask.

MEAL—Corn @1 05; rye @1 75 ₱ bushel.

PRODUCE—Potatoes 45@50c; eggs 28@30c; lard 18c.

SHORTS—@1 75 per one hundred pounds.

PROVISIONS—Clear salt pork, @28@30, ₱ 200 lbs; beef ₱ side @10c; round hog 9@10c; ham 14@16c; turkeys 15@18c; spring lamb @9c; veals 7@8c; mutton 7@8c; spring chickens 17@18c; geese 15c.

WOOL—Medium to fine, washed 40@45c; unwashed one fourth discount. Nominal.

WOOD—Hard wood, seasoned under cover, @6 00@6 50 cord; mill wood, delivered, @4 ₱ cord.

Portland Market.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 20.

APPLES—Green @1 50@2 50; dried 7@12c for Eastern.

BEANS—We quote hand-picked pea beans at @2 75@3 00; yellow eyes, @3 00@3 25.

BUTTER—Selling at 35@40c for family. Store, from 30@35c ₱ b.

CHEESE—Factory is selling at 16@17c ₱ b; Vermont and New York Dairy, 14@15.

FISH—We quote large shore @5 50@5 75; large bank @5 25@5 50; small @3 75@4 50; pollock @3 00@4 00; hake @2 75@3 00 ₱ qtl; herring @4 25@5 00 ₱ bbl; scaled, ₱ box, 25@30c; mackerel ₱ bbl—No. 1, @18 00; No. 2, @8 00@12 00; Shore Nos. 1 and 2, @9 00@14 00.

FLOUR—We quote Superfine, @5 00@5 50; Spring X and XX, @5 25@7 75; Michigan Winter X and XX, @7 00@8 25; Illinois X and XX, @6 75@9 00; St. Louis X and XX, @8 25@9 50.

GRAIN—We quote mixed Corn at @0 90 and yellow @94. Oats are worth 68@70c, fine feed at @35 ₱ ton, and shorts at @30 ₱ ton.

HAY—Loose, @16 00@20 00 ₱ ton for prime. Pressed selling at @16 00@18 00. Baled Straw @13 ₱ ton for prime.

LARD—Prime Western ₱ tierce, 15c ₱ b; per keg 15c; pail 16@16½c.

PLASTER—White, ₱ ton, @3 00; blue @2 75; ground in bbls @8 00@9 00; calcined in bbls @2 75@3 00.

POTATOES—We quote best table sort at 90@95c; seed @1 10; mutton 12@13c; chickens 15@16c; turkeys 18@20c; eggs 30@31c; potatoes 60@75c ₱ bush; onions @3 75 ₱ bbl. Round hogs, 8@9.

PROVISIONS—We quote as follows: Mess beef, Chicago, @12 00@13 50; plate @15 00; extra plate @16 50@17 00; pork backs, @26 00; clear, @25 00@25 50; mess $22 00@23 00. Hams 12½@13c.

Bangor Produce Market.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 20.

BEANS—Yellow eyes @2 75@2 90 ₱ bush; hand-picked lots @3 00 ₱ bush.

BUTTER—Is worth from 28@35c ₱ lb, according to quality.

EGGS—Selling at 30c ₱ dozen.

HAY—Best qualities loose sell at @12 00@14 00 ₱ ton

GRAIN—Oats are now worth 65c ₱ bush; corn @1 00@1 06 ₱ bush.

P TATOES—Selling in the market at 60c ₱ bush

PROVISIONS—Good fresh beef, by the side worth 8@12c ₱ b, round hogs 10@11c; lambs 8@9c.

HIDES AND SKINS—Lambs pelts @1 25@2 00 each. Hides 7@7½c ₱ b.

WOOL—Selling dull at 30@45c per b.

☞ The London Times takes a very gloomy view of matters in Europe. Editorially it says that "in the gloom surrounding us one thing is perceptible, all men are arming. Germany is arming en masse, and the surrounding nations including the best part of the world, cannot do otherwise. Momentary dreams of peace have fled. Germany recognizes the stern necessity that what she won by arms she can only hold by arms, and her arms are in her hands." The Times believes Germany cannot raise a third army, and that her hopes are in her navy.

☞ The President has approved the finance bill, and in returning it to the Senate he accompanied it by a message in which he calls the attention of Congress to the necessity for an increased revenue to carry out the obligation or adding to the sinking fund annually one per cent. of the public debt, amounting now to about $34,000,000 per annum, and to carry out the promises of this measure to redeem under certain contingencies $80,000,000 of present legal tenders, and without contingency the fractional currency now in circulation.

☞ One of the most important improvements recently made in Boston is the extension of Washington street to Hay-market Square. This opens up a broad thoroughfare almost as straight as the crow flies, from the Eastern and Boston and Maine depots to the heart of the city. The extension is bordered by elegant palaces for purposes of trade, which are nearly ready for occupancy. The change involved a heavy expense but the money was well laid out.

☞ F. L. Capen, the Boston weather prophet, predicts that a January thaw will commence this week and continue into February.

THE PORTLAND ROBBERY.

It is now believed that a clue has been obtained to the robbers of the Treasury of Cumberland County, on the 30th ult. The following statement of the proceedings which led to this fortunate result is from the Portland Advertiser, which says:

On the 10th of December two men came to Portland whose names are known to the detectives of New York and Boston as Thomson and Crawford, with many aliases. One of these is a short man, the other of good height and both have served the States of Massachusetts and New York to good purposes for their many crimes.—These men were making their escape from Boston on account of a robbery of considerable magnitude committed by them in that city. They arrived in Portland, and here met the well-known "Mouse" Hayes,—well-known at least to the profession in this State. It is supposed that Hayes, who was well acquainted with the County Treasury and was aware that money had been paid into the Treasurer's hands, had for some time back been a silent observer of his movements and managed—by ways it is not well to mention here—to know that a very large sum was in the safe. However that may be, Hayes knew Thomson and Crawford, and put up the job for them.

For three weeks this scheme was naturaling in this city. In the meantime—or just a day or two before the robbery—a detective arrived here in pursuit of the Boston robbers. From some information he received he went out to Biddeford on the same day the robbery was committed and while there he heard of it. He immediately suspected—in fact felt certain these must be the very men of whom he was in search. By good fortune he managed to get in with a fellow of the same kidney as the robbers—a man named Hammond who had been urged to join Thomson and Crawford in their Boston burglary, and of whom he knew certain facts that made him a valuable, if not a very willing assistant.—Hammond quickly put the detective up to the manner in which these robbers went to work.

It seems that immediately after committing the robbery Thomson,—the man who hit Mr. Pennell—and Crawford—the tall man in the white coat—went by a circuitous route to Hayes' house on Danforth street where they remained secreted that night.—The next morning the services of a hackman were secured and, for the sum of seventy dollars, this man drove them to Saccarrappa where, in a quiet way, they took the Portland and Rochester train for Boston part of them for Boston the others for New York.

The detective working perseveringly, with the assistance of Hammond, who he never allowed out of his sight, discovered where the three men, Thomson, Crawford and Hayes were in New York, and that they were living in good style spending their money like princes. A requisition was obtained from Governor Dingley, and on Monday the officers left for New York to make the arrest of the culprits. The details of how the robbery was put up, and the villains escaped from the City Building, must await the arrival of the detective.—Thomson is about 35 and Cawford 30 years of age and both very accomplished scoundrels.

☞ Affairs in Louisiana have not materially changed since last week. Pinchback has been elected Senator by the Kellogg Legislature and has arrived in Washington.

The sub-committee of Congress which recently visited New Orleans, have made a report to the House in which it is stated that there is no confidence felt in Kellogg, and that under him, taxation has been carried on almost to the extent of confiscation, while business has been paralyzed and values destroyed. In regard to the last election, it says the reduction of wages, the non-fulfilment of personal or political pledges, the malfeasance of State, and local officials, disputes among the leading colored persons in other localities, the loss or embezzlement, in some cases, of the school funds, and the failure of the Freedman's Bank, all combined to divide the views of colored voters. An effort was accordingly made by the Conservatives to acquire a part of the negro vote. With that view, it was sought in many quarters to appropriate them. The frequent arrests, by the United States marshals, for intimidation and threats of non-employment and the apprehension that was felt that the Returning Board would count out these men if an excuse for such a course were offered, all combined, especially after the 14th of September, to put the Conservatives on their good behavior, and the result was that in November, 1874, the people of the State of Louisiana did fairly have a free, peaceable and full registration and election, in which a clear Conservative majority was elected to the lower house of the Legislature, of which majority the Conservatives were deprived by the unjust, illegal and arbitrary action of the Returning Board.

The Committee are not satisfied with the report of the sub-committee, and the entire committee will visit New Orleans and examine for themselves. Mr. Frye of Maine is a member of the Committee.

THE SCANDAL CASE.

The Beecher-Tilton trial proceeds slowly, but the daily attendance is large. Judge Morris the senior counsel of Mr. Tilton, was absent the last days of last week on account of illness. A correspondent of a Boston paper thus describes the two leading characters in the trial:

"Mr. Beecher showed no trace of anxiety, and, as in the case of Mr. Tilton, if any trouble harasses his mind, he is successful in concealing it from scrutinizing observers. Indeed, calmness, serenity, and even listlessness seem to be at the beginning and end of this celebrated trial. A case which started with eminently intellectual and extra eminently emotional attributes, seems to have got to that stage when any display of feeling at all would be the merest weakness, and this heroism of self-restraint appears to be the chief aim of both the plaintiff and defendant. As Mr. Tilton passed to his seat he almost brushed against Mrs. Tilton, but he seemed serenely unconscious of her presence, and the lady repaid the compliment in kind, and took no notice of the plaintiff."

The direct testimony of Moulton occupied most of last week, and his cross-examination was not concluded Tuesday.

KENNEBEC COUNTY FINANCES.

The Treasurer of Kennebec County has made his annual report, from which we glean the following facts and figures:

From a report of the County Treasurer, of Kennebec county, we have the following principal items of expenditures the past year: Grand and traverse jurors, $5,222.28; sheriff and his deputies attending courts, $1,415.22; services of county commissioners, $1,110.10; support of prisoners in jail, $3,981.72; cost of criminal prosecutions and mittimuses, $6,849.80; repairs of county buildings and furniture, and expenses of erecting work shops in jail, $3,160.85; fuel and lights, $1,261.15; reduction of county debt, $1,000; interest on county debt, $2,637. The total expenditures have been $38,530.28. The permanent debt of the county is $43,300. Amount of fines and costs received into the treasury from the clerk of the supreme judicial court, $2,157.27; fines and costs received from the judges of the municipal courts, $1,032.75; cash received of trial justices and jailor, for fines and costs, $220.46. There is a balance of uncollected county taxes of $12,053.30. Cash in the treasury the first of January 1875, $12,937.08.

☞ An exchange says that Mr. William Appleton Potter, who has just received the appointment of supervising architect of the treasury, is a younger son of the late Right Rev. Alonzo Potter, bishop of Pennsylvania. He is widely and favorably known as an energetic, cultured and talented member of his profession; and brings to his new position fine natural ability disciplined by thorough training in the best schools of his art. He has erected a large number of public buildings which have given him a high reputation among architects, as well as in the outside world. Besides this he is a man of spotless private character and large general culture, and it cannot be doubted that he will raise the position he is about to fill to the rank it deserves to hold both in the profession and in general estimation.

☞ Thursday forenoon the extensive works of the Kinsley Iron and Machine Co. at Canton, Mass., took fire from a spark of hot iron and all the shops on the east side of the street were destroyed. The works employ from 500 to 600 men. They cover several acres of ground. The entire property is valued at $250,000, and the loss is something under this amount. The total insurance on the entire works is $210,000.

Congressional Summary.

Forty-Third Congress.

THURSDAY, Jan. 14.

SENATE. A bill to provide for the compensation of officers of the government for observing the transit of Venus was passed.

A bill authorizing the commissioner of patents to entertain the application of F. M. Strong and Thos. Ross of Vermont, for an extension of patents for weighing scales was passed.

The unfinished business being the resolutions of Mr. Schurz, instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire what legislation by Congress is necessary to secure to the people of Louisiana the rights of self-government under the constitution, &c., was resumed. Mr. Logan concluded his argument commenced yesterday.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the Indian appropriation bill.

Mr. Shanks defended the Indian peace policy and asserted as the result of it that the Indians were in better condition to-day than ever before since first discovered by Columbus.

After considerable discussion of Indian affairs the Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Sergeant-at-Arms, stating that a writ of habeas corpus had been served on him to produce Irwin in court, and asking instructions. After a long discussion he was directed to return that the prisoner was held in custody by order of the House.

The House then, at 4.45 p. m., adjourned.

FRIDAY, Jan. 15.

SENATE. On motion Mr. Pratt the House bill to amend the act granting pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the war of 1812 and windows of deceased soldiers, and to restore to the pension rolls those whose names were stricken therefrom in consequence of disloyalty, was recommitted to the Committee on Pensions.

No quorum being present at the evening session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE. This being the private bill day, the Speaker proceeded to call the committees for bills of private character.

Bill to pay the Japanese indemnity fund to the officers and crew of the U. S. ships Wyoming and Tokiang was defeated in Committee of the Whole and subsequently in the House.

The report of the Louisiana sub-committee was presented, and it was announced that the whole committee would go to New Orleans.

The Sergeant at-Arms was directed to make return in Irwin's case that the latter was held by order of the House, and to take the body of Irwin before the court when making such return. Adjourned.

SATURDAY, Jan. 16.

SENATE. Mr. Clayton presented a memorial signed by over 200 citizens of Arkansas, formerly soldiers in the Union army, endorsing the course of Gen. Sheridan in New Orleans, and declaring the statements made by him were true. Laid on the table.

The unfinished business being the resolution of Mr. Schurz, instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire what legislation by Congress is necessary to secure to the people of Louisiana their rights of self-government under the constitution, etc., was resumed. Mr. Saulsbury concluded his argument.

The House was not in session.

MONDAY, Jan. 18.

SENATE. Mr. Morrill reported back the consular and diplomatic appropriation bill with sundry amendments.

A bill to provide a national currency secured by pledge of United States bonds, and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof, approved June 3, 1864, was laid over.

A bill to amend the act to provide for the redemption of the three per cent. temporary loan certificates and for the increase of national bank notes, approved July 12, 1871, was laid over.

Mr. Schurz's Louisiana resolution came up.

Mr. Morrill moved to lay aside the resolution of Schurz and proceed with the legislative appropriation bill. Agreed to.

He states that bill as it passed the House appropriated $18, 422,442. The amendments recommended by the Senate committee made the total amount $18,791.954, making an increase of $369,512 over the House bill. The increase was attributable chiefly to a want of service in the assay offices and in the departments of the government in Washington. It was a reduction of $1,966,300 as compared with last year.

The amendments proposed by the Committee on appropriations were agreed to as follows: Increasing the compensation of principal clerk, the principal executive clerk, the minute and journal clerk, and the financial clerk in the office of Secretary of the Senate from $2592 to $3000 per annum: striking out clause of House bill providing that the clerk of the committees of either branch of Congress, except those whose salaries are fixed by special appropriations, shall be paid not less than $5 per day, and during the session only.

The committee submitted an amendment reducing the compensation of commissioners of internal revenue from $6000 to $5000 per annum. Rejected.

The committee proposed an amendment authorizing the organization of a bureau of commerce and statistics to be attached to the Treasury Department, and authorizing the President to appoint by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, the chief of said bureau.

Pending the discussion of the amendment to organize a bureau of commerce, Mr. Edmunds moved that the senate proceed to the consideration of executive business.

HOUSE. A large number of bills were introduced and referred.

After the introduction of a large number of bills, the House proceeded to the consideration of the business of the District of Columbia. The rules were suspended and a bill passed, 164 to 76, appropriating $25,000 to defray the expenses attending the visit of the King of the Hawaiian Islands to the United States.

A long discussion took place on a bill to relieve from taxation the charitable institution endowed by Corcoran, and known as the Columbia House for Indigent Old Ladies of the District of Columbia.

It was finally passed and at 5 o'clock the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, Jan. 19.

SENATE. The Senate resumed the consideration of the legislative appropriation bill, pending the amendment being that of Mr. Boutwell to strike out the first part of the amendment proposed by the committee which provided for the organization of a bureau of commerce and statistics, and it was agreed to—yeas 29, nays 21.

The question then being upon the second part of the amendment proposed by the committee, to continue the present bureau of statistics, was agreed to.

Mr. Morrill of Maine moved an amendment, appropriating $20,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the bureau, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury. Agreed to.

Various petitions and memorials were presented, including one by the Vice President of the legislature of Dakotah asking Congressional aid for the completion of the Northern Pacific R. R. Referred to the Committee on Railroads.

The Senate went into executive session at 4.40 P. M. and soon adjourned.

HOUSE. Mr. E. R. Hoar of Massachusetts, offered a resolution for the appointment of a select committee of five to inquire whether the privileges of the House have been violated by the arrest and detention of Whitelaw Reid of New York, at the suit of Alexander R. Shepherd while Reid was within the District of Columbia under a subpœna from a committee of the House.

Mr. Butler of Massachusetts, opposed the resolution on the ground that it was an attempt to extend the privileges of the House beyond the Constitution. He did not think the House should interfere with the administration of criminal justice. If Whitelaw Reid should send into the District a package of poison by which a man receiving it should receive injury in his person, he would be liable to be brought into the District and tried criminally for the act, but it was claimed if a man only sent a package of malicious falsehoods by which the good name and reputation of some citizen of the District was struck down, he might do so day by day without any animadversion.

The resolution was advocated by E. R. Hoar and Kelley, and Dawes said no public man had suffered more from an unbridled public press than himself, but when he felt himself compelled to appeal to law rather than his own life and character for vindication against the false charges in the press, he should feel he had sunk so low that his character would not be worth any such resuscitation as the law could bring to it, and he should consider it quite a work of supererogation to take any trouble about it.

The Committee of Ways and Means looked upon the arrest of Reid as unlawful, unwise and impolitic.

At the close of the discussion Mr. Butler moved to lay the resolution on the table. Negatived, 45 to 102.

The resolution was then adopted, yeas 187, nays 44, and the Speaker appointed as such select committee Messrs. E. R. Hoar of Massachusetts, Hale of New York, Orth of Indiana, Clymer of Pennsylvania, and Sayles of Ohio.

The House ordered Charles D. Wetmore to be brought to the bar of the House for contempt.

The House then went into committee of the whole. Mr. Poland in the chair, on the Indian appropriation bill.

Wetmore was brought in but asked till to-morrow to consider whether he would answer or not. Pending decision House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 20.

SENATE. The Vice-President submitted a memorial of the conservative members of the Louisiana Legislature, giving their views of the recent disturbances attending the organization of the Legislature. Ordered printed and referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections.

The proposed amendment to the constitution providing for the election President and Vice President strictly by the people, was called up and read, after which the Senate went into executive session and soon adjourned.

HOUSE. The Speaker presented a letter from Richard B. Irwin, the recusant witness in the Pacific Mail investigation, stating that the time having arrived when he can without breach of confidence answer questions he had heretofore refused to answer, he was now ready to do so and to purge himself of the alleged contempt; and stating that he has been suffering from malarial fever and that unless released, his testimony would be lost forever.

Mr. Creunse of Nebraska introduced a bill apropriating $3000 for special distribution of seeds to those portions of the country that suffered from the grasshopper ravages. Passed.

The amendment to pay $2,981,247 to the Choctaw nation was amended by changing the sum to $600,000 and agreed to.

Charles D. Wetmore, recusant Pacific Mail witness, was brought before the House bnt gave evasive and insulting answers, and was committed to the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms. Adjourned.

Foreign News.

Great Britain.

London, Jan. 14. The ship City of London, which sailed from Liverpool to-day for New York, is ashore at Carnsore Point, Ireland, and is in a dangerous position.

The steamship Baltic, which arrived at Queenstown on the 12th inst. from New York, was slightly damaged by the heavy gales on the passage.

Spain.

Madrid, Jan. 15. King Alfonso arrived in the capital yesterday. Immense crowds witnessed his entrance and gave him an excellent reception. The King drove through the streets last evening. Bands in the squares played the Royal March, and the illuminations were numerous and brilliant.

General Martinez Campos has been created Marquis of Saguinto.

The Protestant journals which were suspended have been permitted to resume publication.

Madrid, Jan. 16. King Alfonso gave a dinner last evening to members of his Cabinet and the Diplomatic Corps.

A decree has been published reducing punishments in cases of violation of the ordinary criminal laws.

General Primo do Rivera will accompany the King on a visit to the Army of the North.

London, Jan. 16. A Daily News dispatch from Hendage states that the German man-of-war Nautilus landed 100 men at Serenzo on the Spanish coast, who occupied the place after a short resistance from the Car lists.

Germany.

Berlin, Jan. 16. The Prussian Diet was opened to-day by Herr Camptanser, the Minister of Finance. The King's speech was devoted to local affairs.

The German chancellor has submitted an ordiance prohibiting the importation into Germany of American potatoes in order to guard against the Colorado beetle.

Siam.

London, Jan. 16. Intelligence has been received that a rupture has occurred between the first and second Kings of Siam. They are father and son respectively. The latter has taken refuge in the British Consulate at Bangkok. He disbanded his forces and declines to appeal to arms. A British gunboat has left Singapore for Bangkok to protect British interests.

Sumatra.

London, Jan. 14. A dispatch from Pedang announces that the Dutch troops in Acheen have made a general assault on the works of the Achines and carried nine forts, with loss of 21 killed and 65 wounded. The enemy lost 171 killed and a large number wounded.

New Zealand.

London, Jan. 14. A report has been received from New Zealand that the cutter Lapwing was recently attacked by the natives of Santa Cruz Island. Her crew were overpowered and massacred, and the vessel burned. The savages afterward attacked the British war ship Sand Fly, but were driven off.

☞ Capt. Ored F. Mitchell, the recently elected Sergeant-at-Arms of the Massachusetts Legislature, is the fourth person only who has held the office. The first, John Kuhn, was elected in 1796, and held the position forty years. In 1836 Benjamin Stevens succeeded him and remained in office twenty-three years. In 1859 John Morissey was chosen, and he has been Sergeant-at-Arms for sixteen years. A son of Mr. Khun was at the State House a day or two since. He is eighty years of age. Capt. Mitchell went to the war in the old Third Regiment of militia in April, 1861, under Col. David M. Wardrop. Returning at the expiration of the time of service, he enlisted in the Fortieth Regiment, Col. Burr Porter, and served at Washington, also in Virginia, South Carolina, Florida, and afterward in the Army of the James, rising from the ranks to be a Captain He was in a large number of battles and lost his left arm in one of the fights before Petersburg a day or two before the battle of Cold Harbor. Capt. Mitchell is thirty-eight years of age. He is about the medium szize, with a healthy-looking face and a pleasing manner.

☞ A sensation was created in New York Monday by Mr. Henry Bergh appearing among the horses of fashionable people about A. T. Stewart's retail store. Mr. Bergh caused several horses, which had been recently clipped and were standing shivering in the cold, to be sent back to their stables, while the ladies who were shopping had in some instances to walk home. Among the clipped animals standing in the cold was a span belonging to one of the Appletons, the book publishers. Mr. Appleton's driver was arrested and charged with cruelty to animals, Mr. Bergh being the complainant, and after a long examination he was held for trial. Last Sunday out of seventy-eight carriage teams standing in front of churches examined by Mr. Bergh's officers, forty-one had been clipped and the blankets provided by the owners for the animals were found wrapped around the drivers' legs and feet.

☞ Gen. Ord received a telegram Friday from Capt Henry, commanding the expedition sent out to find and expel the miners from the Black Hills. The commands were driven into camp Robinson, Jan. 8th, by the severity of the weather. All the officers and men were badly frozen. One wagon was lost. The thermometer was 40° below zero most of the time. No trace of the miners have been found.

☞ Strongly recommending the use of Fellows' Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites to all who suffer in any way from disease or weakness of the Lungs, Bronchial Tubes, or general debility. Believe me your obdient servant,

J. H. W. Scott, M. D.,
Gagetown, N. B.

☞ The unprecedented sale of the Eureka Machine twist, is accounted for from the fact that those who use it once will use no other.

A Walking Advertisement.

LIMESTONE SPRINGS, S. C.

Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.:

Dear Sir—I am a walking advertisement for your Golden Medical Discovery, Purgative Pellets and Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy, they having cured me of Catarrh of nine years' standing, which was so bad that it disfigured my nose, and, while curing it, your medicines also cured me of Asthma in its worst and most aggravated form. Before using your medicines I had become reduced in flesh from one hundred and fifty-five to one hundred and fifteen pounds, and I now weigh one hundred and sixty-one pounds, and am in better health than I have enjoyed for twenty years. Yours truly, J. L. LUMSDEN.

The above is but a fair sample of hundreds of letters which are received by Dr. Pierce, and in the face of such evidence who can longor doubt that the Doctor's medicines cure the worst cases of Chronic Catarrh.

The Great Favorite with the Ladies.

Wm. Forsyth Bynum & Son, druggists, of Live Oak, Fla., write, Sept. 16th, 1874, as follows: "Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.—Your Golden Medical Discovery and Purgative Pellets sell very largely and give complete satisfaction, as numbers of our customers and friends testify with pleasure. Your Favorite Prescription is indeed the Favorite with the ladies, and numbers can say with joy that it has saved them from eking out a miserable life or meeting with premature death, and restored them to health and happiness."

Thousands of women bless the day on which Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription was first made known to them. A single bottle often gives delicate and suffering women more relief than months of treatment from their family physician. In all those derangements causing back-ache, dragging down sensations, nervous and general debility, it is a sovereign remedy. Its soothing and healing properties render it of the utmost value to ladies suffering from internal fever, congestion, inflammation or ulceration, and its strengthening effects tend to correct displacements of internal parts, the result of weakness of natural supports. It is sold by all druggists.

Dr. Pierce's pamphlet on diseases peculiar to women, will be sent to any address on receipt of two stamps. Address as above.

Married.

In Augusta, Dec. 25, by Rev. J. E. Bean, Rev. John W. White to Mrs. Almira Joy; Jan. 11, Freeman Hutchinson to Sarah E. Hutchinson; Jan. 16, by Rev. C. F. Penney, Thomas N. Furbush to Lucy J. Newcomb.

In Auburn, Jan. 9, Jerome B. Hunton to Alice M. Eaton; Jan. 14, Eugene H. W. Bailey to Julia R. Ryerson.

In Aurora, Jan. 9, Joseph K. Porter of Ellsworth to Lizzie Wilson of Greenfield.

In Amherst, Jan. 1, Sabin H. Brown to Anna L. Giles.

In Bath, Jan. 12, Edward B. Lemont to Flora Mc-Fadden; Jan. 13, J. Alfred Phillips of Redwing, Min. to Lizzie D. Tucker.

In Belfast, Dec. 31, Charles Mills to Mrs. Barbara Mudgett; Jan. 9, John H. Adams to Mary M. Small.

In Brunswick, Jan. 12, by Rev. George C. Crawford, Stephen D. Johnson to Charlotte E. Littlejohn, both of Hartford.

In Bangor, Jan. 10, J. H. Lucey to Annie M. Leary of Hampden; Jan. 13, Jerome H. Comins to Ella M. Davis, both of East Eddington.

In Brewer, Jan. 10, Loomis A. Smith of Orrington to Delia J. Gottle.

In Bluehill, Jan. 6, Freeman W. Carter to Vesta A. Wilson.

In Biddeford, Jan. 6, Warren R. Jordan of Saco to to Mary E. Stewart of Deering; Jan. 10, George H. Peavey of Dayton to Ellen A. Ladd of Saco.

In Camden, Jan. 3, Nathaniel Gardiner to Mrs. L. G. Whiting.

In Cranberry Isle, Jan. 1, Capt. Lewis E. Ladd to Clara E. Gilley.

In Deering, Jan. 18, J. Henry Murdock of Gorham, N. H. to Cadie L. Stevens.

In Ellsworth, Jan. 5, Benj. F. Bowden to Olive E. Burns, both of Trenton.

In Eden, Jan. 1, Frank B. Higgins to Hattie H. Hopkins.

In Fairfield, Jan. 11, Andrew J. Clifford of Unity to Mary E. Davis.

In Falmouth, Jan. 12, George W. Marston to Sarah E. True.

In Farmington, Jan. 11, Henry L. Fletcher of Thomaston to Lizzie E. Small of Temple.

In Gardiner, Dec. 25, Henry E. White to Augusta E. Haines, both of Chelsea.

In Gouldsboro', Jan. 4, Henry Bunker to Hattie Bunker; Jan. 16, by H. M. Soule, Esq. Charles C. Hutchins to Harriet W. Noyes of Sullivan; Gilbert Tracy of Idaho Territory to Ann Harradan.

In Houlton, Jan. 11, David W. McLaughlin to Mary E. Clark, both of Oakfield.

In Lamoine, Jan. 11, Rev. Hiram H. Bridges of Brooklin to Relief Munson of Wesley.

In Lyman, Jan. 1, Henry T. Carl to Joanna Roberts; Jan. 6, Orrin S. Walker to Susan P. Littlefield.

In Lowell, Mass., Jan. 13, Zimri E. Gilbert of Oldtown to Annie L. Butterfield.

In Lewiston, Jan. 6, Lewis P. Gleason to Serene M. Carney of Boston.

In Lubec, Jan. 3, Charles A. Edgcomb to Ida A. Small.

In Lyndon, Jan. 3, James S. Conant of Limestone to Mrs. Sarah Montgomery of Maysville.

In Mt. Vernon, Jan. 13, Alfred Weston to Mrs. Ruth A. Fish.

In Milo, Jan. 2, George W. Leonard to Hattie E. Snow of Orono.

In Montville, Jan. 3, Oscar Evans to Eliza H. Stevenson.

In Newcastle, Jan. 4, Geo. L. Cotter to Josephine Harris.

In Portland, Dec. 5, Daniel W. Bussel to Louise M. Libby; Jan. 16, Clarendon Lord to Anna Scribner, both of Deering; Jan. 19, Capt. Albert D. Barnard to to Orissa E. Greene.

In Phipsburg,

Poetry.

Charles Sumner.

BY H. W. LONGFELLOW.

Garlands upon his grave,
And flowers upon his hearse,
And to the tender heart and brave
The tribute of this verse.

His was the troubled life
The conflict and the pain,
The grief, the bitterness of strife,
The honor without stain.

Like Winkelried, he took
Into his manly breast
The sheaf of hostile spears, and broke
A path for the oppressed;

Then from the fatal field
Upon a nation's heart
Borne like a warrior on his shield!—
So should the brave depart.

Death takes us by surprise,
And stays our hurrying feet;
The great design unfinished lies,
Our lives are incomplete.

But in the dark unknown
Perfect their circles seem,
Even as a bridge's arch of stone
Is rounded in the stream.

Alike are life and death,
When life in death survives,
And the uninterrupted breath
Inspires a thousand lives.

Were a star quenched on high,
For ages would its light,
Still traveling downward from the sky,
Shine on our mortal sight.

So when a great man dies,
For years beyond our ken,
The light he leaves behind him lies
Upon the paths of men.

Atlantic.

Our Story Teller.

TOM FANSHAW'S LUCK.

It was Bad at First but Good at Last.

CHAPTER I.

Tom Fanshaw, of the New York Central Railway Company's service, thought it a hard case to have to turn out of his warm bed at the unearthly hour of the morning at which his wife gave him a push and told him it was time to get up. He rose in dudgeon, went to the window and looked out. A cold, aggravating December morning; nothing to be seen except the candle he held in his hand, and his own unshaven, unwashed visage glowering sulkily at him. His wife, a cheery little body, was on her knees before the grate, trying to kindle the embers of last night's fire with the bellows.

"Come, Tom," she said, "look sharp, or you'll be late. Drat the fire, it won't light, and firewood's so awful dear." She drew a little bundle from its hiding-place, and lighted a match beneath it. "There, that'll do now. What sort of a morning is it?

"Don't jaw. I declare it's an abominable shame."

What particular abuse the railroad man alluded to can never be know, for at this moment the baby began to squall and drowned all other voices in his own. The wife went to take it up.

"Hush-sh-sh; bless its little heart, it shall, so it shall."

"Warm my coffee," said Mr. Fanshaw, magisterially.

"Yes, directly. Did it wants its pap, the precious chicken, did it?" and Mrs. Fanshaw set on the fire a can which did not contain her lord's coffee.

Fanshaw buttoned on his uniform and mused upon the insufficiency of his salary. In an adjoining room three other small persons awoke, and, running in, clung in their night-gowns round mammy, and demanded to be dressed.

"My coffee!" thundered Fanshaw above the clamor.

"Yes, directly; only baby must have his pap first," pleaded Mrs. Fanshaw, hastening toward the fire.

Tom Fanshaw was decidedly cross that morning. He had full five minutes to spare; but a gloomy desire for martyrdom came upon him.

"Very well. I see I am to have no coffee this morning," he said, and stalked heroically out of the house in the direction of the depot, where it was his fate to attend to the cars arriving by the train due every morning at seven o'clock, and at intervals thereafter throughout the day. As he stood by the gate he suddenly felt something which might be a claw, or a mouth, take firm hold of his calf. He gave a little jump, excusable in a man who had been for some time eyeing a white bull-dog, the property of a shaggy dog-fancier, standing suspiciously close to his legs. Tom Fanshaw started, but the claw still kept its grasp without any of those incisions peculiar to teeth, and at last he looked down. He saw a long way below him, a small boy, a little child, not more than two or three years old, crying bitterly. After two or three seconds, apparently spent in making up his mind that it did not intend to bite, Fanshaw stooped down and gave it more closely. He saw a small bit of puckered face and two large bits of chubby hands and the thing said between its sobs, "Please, sir, where's mammy?"

Tom Fanshaw was not by any means a hard man, albeit the weather had gone a long way toward making him so; so he said kindly: "Hullo, young 'un, what's the row! What mammy, eh? We'll find her in a minute. You're really too young to be left behaving that the child had strayed from its mother while she was looking for her baggage. They walked down the platform together, the big man and the little one, the small hand laid confidingly in the great red fist; but no mammy was to be found.

"Look here, what's to be done?" said Fanshaw, showing the child to a policeman.

"Oh, hand him over to me," replied the knight of the baton. "I'll take him to the station-house, and he'll be claimed in a day or two. Come along, Johnny." The child brightened at the name; it was evidently the right one.

"Come along, Johnny," repeated the policeman, trying to lead him away. But the little hand clung to its first protector, and Mr. Fanshaw lingered.

"Where are you going to take him?" he asked. "Twenty-first Precinct Station-house, eh! I'll come and look after him in a day or two. Poor little fellow, I suppose the Commissioners of Charity and Correction will get him eventually; but there—I've got torments enough at home." He hardened his heart at the thought of the morning's scene, and consigned his small charge to the policeman's care.

Fanshaw related the circumstance to his wife, and the next morning Mrs. Fanshaw found time to accompany her husband on a visit to the station-house, to "look after" little Johny.

Mrs. F. carried with her a couple of oranges and a tin trumpet, the confiscated property of her son and heir. They had nearly reached their destination, when a hansom, poorly clad, with a young pinched face that was not without a certain wild beauty, and di-heveled hair, turning the corner of a narrow street, came into violent collision with Mr. Fanshaw. Recovering herself immediately, she brushed roughly past him and ran at full speed down a dark passage. Mrs. Fanshaw looked after her with some surprise, and the next moment she and her husband were surrounded by a little crowd, headed by two policeman in a great hurry.

"Did you see a woman pass just now," asked one of them—"young and rather good-looking? She's been robbing a jeweler's shop, and we thought she came this way."

"Yes, yes," replied Fanshaw, eagerly, catching the prevailing excitement; she ran against me, not a minute ago. She went down that passage," and he pointed to the alley where the woman had disappeared.

With a hasty "thank you" the policeman hurried in the direction indicated; but they were soon at fault again, and Fanshaw and his wife, having followed for a minute or two, disengaged themselves from the crowd and walked on. Arrived at the station-house, Johnny was found, his puckered face more puckered still, crying piteously in the corner, in dire disgrace. The nurse of the ward, an old crone, whose temper time had soured, pointed him out vindictively.

"Drat the child! I can't do nothing with him, that's the way he's been going on the whole blessed morning. Mammy, mammy, indeed I wish his mother 'ud fetch him out, for he's no better nor a nuisance here."

Mrs. Fanshaw's bright eyes darted daggers at the old dame as she went past her, and in a minute she had gathered little Johnny into her kind arms, and was cuddling him up upon her lap, where the child's sobs soon subsided under the combined influence of kisses and oranges. The little fellow was worn out by crying, and he nestled directly into his new resting-place and went fast asleep, clasping one of Mrs. Fanshaw's fingers tightly in his mottled hand. It went to the mother's heart to have to leave him, but she felt that in the present state of the family funds they could not venture to burden themselves with this helpless child. She laid him tenderly down, kissing the flushed cheek and gently drawing away her finger.

"Be kind to him, poor little duck," she said to the old dame, "he'll soon get used to it; but he is only a baby, and it is hard for him to be taken from his mother," and in an unusually subdued mood Mrs. Fanshaw descended the stairs, to join her husband below.

Mr. Fanshaw, meanwhile, had been sitting on a bench in the office talking to one of the officers who was off duty.

"Got such a thing as a chew of tobacco about you, Fanshaw?" said the officer, peering hungrily into Tom's face.

"Why, yes," replied Tom. "I thought somebody might want some, and I filled my box before I started." He put his hand in his coat-pocket, and drew thence.—a gold Louis quatroize snuff-box, from the lid of which beamed a lovely enameled face, set round in large diamonds. Mr. Fanshaw's eyes opened to that extent that there was reason to apprehend that he would never be able to close them again; his wife's glittered like a raven's; the jeweled toy lay shining on the big palm.

"Well—" at last said Mr. Fanshaw, drawing a long breath. A moment after, "Bless my soul?" he exclaimed. "I've hit it! It must have been put in my pocket by that ere woman we met, with the police close at her heels. Served her right if she did get caught," added Tom, indignantly, "the jade! putting such things in an honest man's pocket. But what a beauty it is, to be sure?"

A day or two later an advertisement appeared in the *Herald*, offering $100 reward for the box. Fanshaw's conscience had been set at rest in regard to the acceptance of such reward, and he agreed with his wife that she should go to the station-house and claim little Johnny—for they could afford to keep him on the reward—and meet her lord afterward at the jeweler's shop. When he reached it he stared through the plate-glass window in admiration for a minute or two, and walked in in the best possible spirits, and advanced toward the counter.

"I called about this advertisement," said he, showing one that he had cut out of the paper; "the box has come into my possession."

"Oh, indeed," replied the young man whom he addressed, with an unmistakable sneer.—"Oh, indeed!"

"It happened very curiously," Tom went on, glibly; "I and my wife were walking—"

"Don't tell your story to me, if you please," interrupted the shopman rudely; "I'll mention your errand to my master.—Here, Jenkins, two upon ten."

The shopman went by the inner passage, and Jenkins advanced from the other side of the shop and kept very close to Tom, in a manner which he could not but think offensive, especially as a man of far less respectable appearance was left standing unwatched at the opposite counter.—Worse than this, the meaning of the mysterious order "two upon ten," soon became obvious in the gluing of Mr. Jenkins's eyes upon the ten fingers, five of which were resting innocently upon the counter. Tom began to grow very uncomfortable. When finally the first salesman returned and proceeded him into a private room, and Jenkins, calling another man to attend to the shop, joined quietly in behind, Tom felt that all his good spirits had unaccountably left him, and was conscious of wearing a hang-dog look, and of being treated surprisingly like a criminal.

Mrs. Fanshaw, with little Johnny in her hands, hovered about the door of the jeweler's shop for a good quarter of an hour before her lord made his appearance.—When at length he did so, she fell back with a start and looked with terrified eyes into his face; the gas-light showed it to be of a deadly white.

"Heavens! Save us, Tom! What's the matter? You look like a ghost!"

"Stuff and nonsense," he said, trying to speak angrily, but the words came thick and faint out of his throat. "What! you've got the brat have you?"

"Yes, Tom. Poor little man, he was so pleased," and the wife crept timidly nearer her husband.

"We shall never repent it, anyway, I'm sure. I couldn't have eaten my Christmas dinner comfortable if we hadn't done it, but haven't you—haven't you got the money?"

"Yes, I've got the money," he growled between his set teeth.

Mrs. Fanshaw felt such a lump rise in her throat that she spoke no more till they were at home and in their own room. There she could no longer restrain her tears; they streamed down unnoticed over the new bonnet strings that she had tied with such pride an hour before.

"Oh, Tom!" she pleaded, "I can't bear this. Only tell me what it means."

"Means!" he exclaimed. "It means that there don't believe a word of my story. It means that I shall lose my situation and my character, and be ruined, as sure as you're a living woman; thanks to you and that cursed brat! They don't prosecute, but they are going to write and inform the company."

The next day Tom Fanshaw was summarily dismissed from the employment of the New York Central Railroad Company without a recommendation.

CHAPTER II.

"Land in sight!" What magic there is in these words as they fly from lip to lip on board a homeward-bound vessel. How the passengers come crowding up to catch the first glimpse of America, nearing momentarily; what agitated grasps of the hand there are between new friends, what reconciliation between ancient foes. Watch for a moment the deck of the Flying Scud, homeward-bound from the South African diamond diggings. Yonder is a man, the centre of an excited group; he is the fortunate possessor of a good binocular, an invaluable treasure at such a moment. On this side sits a woman who, one may tell from her deep mourning, has laid her husband to rest in that distant land; she strives in vain to see the coast with eyes blurred and dimmed with tears. Here is a man who left America several years ago, and he is wondering whether any will be alive to greet him on his return. Ah, what hopes, what fears, what beating hearts and straining eyes the good ship bears along as she comes bounding home to America!

In the midst of such a scene, four years after the events narrated in the last chapter, a husband and wife were standing together, quietly and earnestly gazing toward land. The woman's face was pale and calm, but a wistful look in the gray eyes and some deep lines about the mouth told their story of past trouble. Her husband, a hale, burly man, from the class perhaps of working farmers, looked as if no cloud had ever rested on his handsome face; both were plainly but well dressed.

"Well," the man was saying, "I've come back to America a sight richer than I left it, that's certain. That last haul did my business, and glad enough I shall be to be home again;" then, as his wife did not immediately reply, he added, kindly:—"Come, cheer up, Jane. I know what you're thinking of; but you need'nt be so down-hearted. We're sure to find him."

"Ah, I don't know, the mother said, sadly; "he may be dead and gone by this time, poor darling. If he is alive, he must be seven now. My baby, my baby, how could I leave him!"

"Well, my girl, I don't wonder at it," replied the man in his hearty voice.—"You'd have stuck to him, I know, as long as you had a bit of bread to put in his mouth; and when you hadn't, I don't know but what you did the best you could for him."

The woman looked up gratefully to her husband, but tears filled her eyes. She took the great, brown hand and stroked it, saying softly: "You are sure you forgive everything that went before—before I left New York?"

"Why' what are you talking about, Jenny? Didn't I tell you the day we were married that bygones should be bygones, eh. little woman? and havn't you been the best of wives to me for three years since then? It's just the sight of America that makes you foolish and nervous-like. You'll be all right as soon as you get there.

There was a little pause, and then the wife said, timidly:

"Harry, I've never told you exactly how I came to leave my baby, and to—to take the box. I should like to tell you, now."

"Well, my dear," he answered, without a shadow crossing his face, "tell me now, if it will be a comfort to you; but don't feel obliged to."

"No," she replied, drumming softly with her fingers upon the side of the vessel. "I should like to do it. After—after he deserted me, you know, we really were starving, my baby and I. That morning—we had been wandering about all night in the cold, and he cried for bread and I had none to give him. Ah, me! I can hear that little cry now! At last we came near the depot, and I could see the warm fire through the waiting-room window; I thought my baby would die soon if he wasn't fed, and all the courage went out of me. I put him down by the entrance, thinking perhaps some passenger might take pity on him.—And then I watched under cover of the darkness, and saw them take him to the station-house. Oh, what a miserable, miserable place for a little child!"

"My poor girl!" said her husband compassionately, as she stopped, choked by her tears.

"The next day I was prowling about near the station-house—I couldn't go far from it. it always seemed to pull me back—when I came to a jeweler's shop, where a lady was going in with a snuff box to be mended. I could see her unfolding the parcel, and then the jewels sparkling upon it. I longed for the food that it would have bought, and thought how cruel it was that she should have that splendid thing while my baby, my only treasure, must be taken from me."

She waited a moment, and then went on, her eyes fixed upon the dim outline of the distant shore:

The salesman left the shop, and the lady walked toward the door holding the box. I don't know what possessed me then. I rushed in, snatched it out of her hand, and ran away. There was a hue and cry for a police, and the next moment I could hear them behind me. I tried to go faster, but on turning a corner I ran up hard against a man. It stopped me, and then the horror came upon me of feeling myself a thief. I had never stolen a crumb before. I could not give myself up, and be dragged to prison, but I slipped the box into the man's pocket, and ran on. I thought he would feel it drop and give it directly to the policeman."

"And are you sure that was the man who took little Johnny?" asked the husband; "it hardly seems likely."

"I am sure; his name was Fanshaw, too," she answered; "it was given in the paper, with the account of his having claimed the reward. I saw it afterward."

"What made you think of going to South Africa?"

"Well when I knew that my boy had been taken out of the station-house, I determined not to die, as I thought I should, but to try to live for his sake. I obtained a position as stewardess on a ship bound for South Africa, and I thought it the only way to earn money somehow to support him. I've never heard of him since. I wonder why they have never answered my letters."

"You wrote to the wrong place, most likely," suggested the husband; "however, it was lucky you remembered the jeweler's address at all right, for if he hadn't acknowledged the receipt of the hundred dollars we refunded, and promised not to prosecute, we couldn't be here; but as to Johnny, you'll see Jane. We'll find him out, and have him home, and bring him up to be honest and true, and we'll find means to reward those that have been kind to him, never you fear," and he stooped down and kissed her.

Thus it was that the mother of the deserted child returned to America—the happy, respected wife of an upright and successful man, yet yearning for her lost darling with a longing that never faded or grew dim. Daily during the homeward voyage she had pictured the meeting between herself and her boy, until she could feel the clasp of his little arms round her neck, but as the Flying Scud neared America a miserable restlessness took possession of her—a sick fear lest she should not find her child. Her husband was very tender with her, but he had no power to still the terror that filled the mother's soul. It was on a rainy morning early in Christmas week that Henry Bouton, the fortunate diamond-seeker, and his pale wife landed at New York, and as soon as they had attended to their baggage they started together to look for the Fanshaws.

They went first to the old lodgings to which little Johnny had been traced by his mother. The door was opened by a man of whom they inquired the whereabouts of the Fanshaws.

"Walk in," said he, civilly, when he had heard their query, "and I'll inquire." He did so, and a pleasant, chatty woman, came out, with a baby in her arms. "If you please, ma'am," she said, "the Fanshaws left here three years ago and more. When Mr. Fanshaw got into trouble my husband was put in his place with the railroad company, and as he couldn't afford to keep these lodgings we took 'em off his hands."

Henry Bouton turned to smile cheerily at his wife, before he asked, "What trouble was it?"

"Why, sir, I don't know that I can rightly tell you. It was something about a gold snuff-box that Mr. Fanshaw was supposed to have stolen, and he was dismissed from the company's service. His character was cleared afterwards by some letters from South Africa, and my husband said the company would have given him another situation, but they never could trace him. But lor' ma'am," she exclaimed, suddenly breaking off, "do let me get you a chair. You look ready to drop."

Henry Bouton scarcely waited to thank the astonished woman for her information before he bore off his wife to the carriage that waited at the door. She cowered in a corner of it, and shivered as if cold, but said not a word.

"Don't take on so, Jenny," urged her husband, drawing her shawl more closely round her, "for my sake don't. You couldn't dream you were doing him such an injury, and we shall find them, I'm sure. Try to think of some other place where they may be heard of." She shook her head hopelessly at first, but after a moment said eagerly, "Twenty-first Precinct Station-house! They may know there."

Thither the cabman drove, and ascertained the address of Mr. Fanshaw after leaving the above lodgings. After that it was only a matter of time to follow up the track. The Boutons drove from street, to street, from lodging to lodging, each a degree poorer and dirtier than the last, to be met everywhere with the same sad story: "He couldn't get no work, so they had to give up the rooms." Jane Bouton's pale face grew paler and paler, and her lips became parched and dry. Every now and then her husband laid his broad hand encouragingly on hers, but few words were spoken.

At last they reached a dilapidated house, at whose open door a knot of dirty men were lounging. The often-repeated question was this time answered in the affirmative. Yes they were here. Fallen so low as this! The Boutons mounted the filthy stairs, swarming at every flight with squalid children, up and up till they reached the topmost garret. Here they knocked, and in a minute a woman came out, closing the door behind her. A woman—but could that lean, careworn creature, with untidy hair and threadbare clothes that hung loosely about her pinched figure, be the once fat, comely Mrs. Fanshaw of old days? Jane Bouton was past speaking by this time; her knees were shaking under her; she could hardly stand, but she signed to her husband to tell her story. He did so at once, in a frank, manly way, standing all the time in the dreary passage. He touched tenderly upon the various incidents, but he omitted nothing, and he ended by humbly entreating forgiveness for his wife. His listener heard him in silence, and as he paused a wailing voice called from within: "Mother, Mother, do come!"

Mrs. Fanshaw turned without a word, and hurried back, leaving the door wide open. The Boutons followed her. There was not an atom of furniture in the wretched room, except two straw pallets and some old boxes which served as seats; no signs of food, no fire on that bitter day. On the floor beside the empty grate, crouched two boys of nine and ten, while a girl a year or two older was trying to infuse some of her own vital warmth into a little child of four. They were all dark-haired, and Mrs. Bouton's eye passed them and went to where Mrs. Fanshaw was bending over a pillow of straw, on which a little golden head was lying. The mother could contain herself no longer. She flew across the room and threw herself on her knees by the side of the pallet. "My baby, my baby!" she cried. Johnny opened his eyes with a look of wonder, but did not speak.

"He is dying," hoarsely whispered Mrs. Fanshaw; "dying of hunger."

For one moment Mrs. Bouton turned away her eyes from her child. "Fetch food," she motioned with her lips to her husband; and he was gone in a moment.

There was a silence in the room till his return, both women brooding over the child. At last he came laden with all that he had been able to seize in a raid of two minutes upon the pastry cooks, and followed by a boy bearing a steaming can of soup.

With a flood of tears Mrs. Fanshaw held out her hand to the woman who had been the cause of her husband's ruin, saying: "God bless you for having come in time to save him; he is like my own. I forgive you for his sake." And the two women embraced and kissed each other by the side of the child's poverty-stricken bed.

The sun rose bright and clear on Christmas Day. About noon Henry Bouton carried weak little Johnny in his strong arms to a warm, cheery lodging in a healthy neighborhood. Most of the family had moved some hours before, so as to be ready to receive him, and the child looked round with amazement when he had been softly laid on the little white bed in the corner.

Mrs. Bouton had decked the room with evergreens, a cozy fire was crackling out its welcome, a kettle singing on the fire, and the table was spread for the dinner that was already sending forth savory whiffs from the adjoining kitchen. Mrs. Fanshaw was there, already beginning to smile and beam again, surrounded by her children in warm Winter dresses, and Mrs. Bouton waiting on them all. Johnny's ideas were vague as to the relationship in which she stood to him, but he had no objection to find a second mother in the loving woman who watched and petted him so tenderly.

Presently in came Mr. Fanshaw, who had been forbidden to make his appearance earlier, and his astonishment was a sight worth seeing. An arm-chair had been drawn up in the fireplace, and Henry Bouton's cheery voice invited him into it. He was about to sit down he found a bundle lying on the seat, but he almost let it drop again when he saw what it contained. Of all things in the world, a bran-new conductor's uniform! "Yes, you are honorably reinstated, and promoted to a conductor-ship," Henry Bouton was saying, when he recovered from his stupefaction. "I wish you joy, I'm sure."

"Now, little woman, let's have dinner."—They had dinner, and such a dinner! There was a turkey, of course, and roast beef, and sausages and mince pies, and a plum pudding and all the delicacies that were ever thought of. The very spirit of Christmas seemed to shine out of Henry Bouton's eyes, and to illumine his good humored face; he was resolved upon fun, and he was not a man to be daunted.

Bless you! the stories that he told, the jokes that he made, the absurdities that he perpetrated at that dinner would fill a volume, and then the children began first to laugh, and when the magnificent apparition of the pudding, spouting fire with all its might, burst upon them, a genuine shout of baby glee came from the youngest, which rejoiced its mothers's ears, and of which he was as proud as could be. The Boutons were in no hurry. They had taken rooms in the same house and meant to live there.

And there they live to this day, a thriving, happy, prosperous lot of people as one would wish to see.

Irish Humor.

A most amusing book is "The Adventures of Mick Callighin, M. P.," just published in London. Mick, on the evening before leaving the paternal roof to seek his fortunes, goes to the room of his tutor, Father McQuade, whom he found enveloped in a capacious night robe, surmounted by a cap of the ancient extinguisher shape, tied around his head with a red cotton handkerchief of a wonderful pattern.

"An' now," said he, "kneel down till I give you me blissin'. I'm not in me canonicals, but all the pithers I've seen o' the blissed Sint Pether represints him wid bare legs—seein', I suppose, bein' a fisherman, he had frequently to wade in the salt wather; an' as for driss, I never seen more an him nor I've an mesilf this blissed minit. It's not the vistments makes the praste, Mick, nor the gintleman ayther, as maybe ye'll foind to yer cost."

In the course of events Mick gives assistance to a man driving pigs to market. Both being hungry they go into an eating house, and one of them takes up a dirty newspaper, which is well marked with mustard.

"Mustard!" said Larry; "legal that minds me av Micky Murphy an' Dan Collins, two frins av moine that come over to England for the rapin' av the harvist, an' was walkin' on the quays in this town; an' moind ye, now, Danny had never been over before, but Micky had niver been out o' the carradjus o' the Town o' Tipperary. They wor that hungry after the vyage they didn't know what to do at all, at all. When Dinny sees "Ristorant" wrut up over a shop. 'See now,' sez he, 'that's a place to ate;' an' in they both goes; an' thin, sur, they sees the waither wid a towel over his arm, an' sez Danny, sez he, 'What can we get to ate?' 'Any thing at all,' sez the waither. 'Thin bring a plate o' mate,' sez Danny. So in comes the waither wid a plate o' mate an a large bowl o' musthard; an' moind ye, now, nayther Micky or Danny had iver seen musthard before in all their born days. 'What's to pay for the mate?' sez Danny. 'A shillin', sur, sez the waither. 'An' what's that?' sez he, polntin' to the bowl. 'That's musthard,' sez the waiter. 'An what do ye do wid it?' 'Yez ates it wid the mate, to be shure.' 'An' what's to pay for it?' 'Nothin', sur,' sez the waither. Thin Danny looks at Micky, and Micky looks at Danny, an' they both winks. Whin the waither turned his back, sez Danny, 'See here now, Micky,' sez he, 'I'll tell ye what we'll do; we'll pocket the mate for the journey, an' ate the stuff they gives for nothin';' an' wid that Micky rowls up the mate in his hankerchief an' put it in the crown av his hat; an' Danny he kep' stirrin' up the musthard, an' afther a while he opens his mouth an' takes a great dollop av it. Down goes his head, an' the tears kep' runnin' down out av his eyes. 'Danny, lad,' sez Micky, 'what does be the mather wid ye?' Danny wouldn't let out all. 'But,' sez he, whiniver I think o' the death o' my poor great-grandfather, that wor kill at the pattle o' the Boyne. I can't kape from cryin' at all.' 'Don't take on so, Danny,' sez he, 'Micky,' sez he, 'what does be the matter wid ye?' 'Fegs!' sez Micky, 'I'm cryin' because ye warn't kilt along wid your the fine court ladies by jumping into the lap great-grankfather at the battle o' the Boyne!' Ha, ha, ha! Begorra, be gave him a rowlin' for his illiphant that toime!"

It Runs in the Family.

In Ozark Township, Texas County, resides a family that can probably point to the longest record of elopement cases of any living. The first of which we have any authentic record is as follows:

Some fifteen years ago, Aaron Davis forsook the lawful wife of his bosom, and taking to himself the sister of his wife, Miss Sallie Wilhite, inconsiderately departed. After some years' enjoyment of their illicit loves, the pair returned, and Aaron resumed his former relations with his wife, and devoted himself to rearing a family, and training them in the way they should go. In due time the fair Sallie took to herself a husband, in the person of one Neely, but in their case, also, the course of true love did not run smooth, and soon after the once erring, but now repentant, Sallie was forsaken by her liege lord, whose devotions were paid at another shrine, and another elopement ensued. The next case was that of Ezekiel Wilhite, a cousin of Miss Sallie, who, about two years ago, left for parts unknown, in company with the wife of John Windland, both of the erring ones leaving families behind. Not only was Zeke "some" on the woman question, but was a man possessed of much courage and natural shrewdness. The following anecdote of him will illustrate his character:

At the breaking out of the late war, for some minor offense, Zeke was incarcerated in the jail at Jefferson City. This was by no means in accordance with the ideas of the rights of American citizenship, and he determined to make good his escape. The cell in which he was confined was in the second-story, and immediately over the room occupied by the Jailor and his wife as a sleeping apartment. The walls of the cell were secure, but the floor thereof was of wood. Through this he determined to cut his way. He concealed a knife furnished him with which to partake of his food, and, transformed the same into a saw, cut through the floor in such a way that a slight effort would break an aperture through sufficiently large to admit the passage of his body. He waited until the Jailor and his wife were preparing to retire for the night, when, with a spring, he burst through the floor and made an unceremonious descent upon the surprised inmates of the room beneath. The Jailor sprang for his pistols, but Zeke seized the Jailor's wife in his arms, and interposing her form between himself and the firearms of the belligerent Jailor, backed out of the room and made his escape. This, we suppose, could hardly have been considered an elopement, as the Jailor's wife was evidently an unwilling party to the same.

The next elopement occurred on the 25th of last month. Marrion, a son of Aaron Davis, and a chip of the old block, having arrived at the age of puberty—some nineteen summers—became enamored of his mother's sister, wife of James Starr, a woman some thirty years of age, and during the absence of Mr. Starr, the two struck out for parts unknown. Mrs. Starr rode off one of her husband's horses, while Marion bestrode a steed of his own. The unfaithful wife leaves one child behind, a boy of five.

But even now the chapter is not complete. A short time since, within a few weeks, the wife of Aaron departed this life and left her lord to mourn her departure, but his period of mourning was short, and he recently eloped with Mrs. Sallie Neely, sister of his late wife.

Further developements are confidently expected.

☞ An important fact has been established in the tea trade since the panic, namely, that Japans are rapidly taking the place of Oolongs. When Japans were first introduced into this country a sale could be found for them only in the seaport cities and the country adjacent. Now, a very large and constantly increasing proportion of the imports is shipped to Chicago, Cincinnatti and other Western cities. From a table of the exports of teas from China and Japan to the United States during the past two seasons, it appears that the shipments of blacks have increased only 5,000,000 to 7,000,000 pounds, while those of Japans have increased from 8,000,000, to 17,000,000 pounds, and those of greens from 5,000,000 to 10,000,000 pounds.

☞ A child beginning to read becomes delighted with a newspaper, because he reads of names and things which are familiar, and he will progress accordingly. A newspaper in one year is worth a quarter's schooling to a child. Every father must consider that information is connected with advancement. The mother of a family, being one of its heads, and having a more immediate charge of children, should herself be instructed. A mind occupied becomes fortified against the ills of life, and is braced for emergency. Children amused by reading or study are, of course, considerate and easily governed.

☞ The other day a lady in New Bedford, seeing a red flag displayed from a dwelling-house, unceremoniously entered, and sitting down in the parlor, asked of a servant who was in the room "when the auction would begin?" On being informed that the red flag did not mean auction, but small-pox, she rushed from the house like a crazy woman, and was soon lost to view.

☞ To be bodily tranquil, to speak little and to digest without effort, are absolutely necessary to grandeur of mind or of presence or to proper development of genius.—*Balzac.*

Young Folks' Column.

The Unfinished Prayer.

"Now I lay me—say it darling."
"Lay me," lisped the tiny lips
Of my daughter, kneeling, bending
O'er her folded finger tips.

"Down to sleep"—"To sleep" she murmured
And the curly head drooped low;
"I pray the Lord," I gently added,
"You can say it all I know."

"Pray the Lord."—the words came faintly,
Fainter still—"My soul to keep,"
Then the tired head fairly nodded
And the child was fast asleep.

But the dewy eyes half opened
When I clasped her to my breast,
And the dear voice softly whispered,
"Mamma, God knows all the rest."

Oh, the trusting, sweet confiding
Of the child-heart! Would that I,
Thus might trust my heavenly Father,
He who hears my feeble cry.

The Little Music-King.

In the year 1761, any one looking into the sitting-room of the chapel-master of Saltzburgh might have seen a little figure bent over a table busily scratching away with pen and ink. The childish hand hardly knew how to hold a pen, but hurried along with marks and dots and strange-looking characters, smeared with ink, and now and then blackened with a huge blot as the pen dashed from ink to paper with trembling eagerness. The door opened, and the chapel-master entered with a friend, but the little curly head did not stir.

"What are you doing, my son?"

"I am composing a concerto for the harpsichord, papa. I have nearly finished the first part."

"Let me see."

"No, please: I have not yet finished."

The father took the paper, however, and showed it to his friend. They both laughed heartily at the scrawl: but on looking more attentively, the chapel-master said:

"See, it is really composed by rule; but it is to difficult; no one could play it."

"It must be well studied before it is played," said the boy. "See, this is how it begins." And running to the harpsichord, he succeeded in playing enough of it to show what his idea was.

It was indeed a musical composition, correctly composed, but containing such great difficulties that an able musician would have found it impossible to execute it to the harpsichord.

The chapel-master was Leopold Mozart, and the little composer, only five years old, was Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, afterward so celebrated in the musicial world.

Two years before, he had stood listening at the fireside while his papa gave a music-lesson to his sister Anna.

"Thou teachest Nunnerl, papa: teach me too."

"But thou art a baby, Wolfgang; wait my little man."

But when the lesson was over, and papa gone, the little fellow went to the harpsichord, and, standing on tiptoe, groped among the keys, with his baby-fingers stretched wide apart, till he found and played a perfect chord. Papa's music-ear caught the sound, and he rushed back into the room to find that his baby had indeed, all alone, found his way into the beautiful tone-world.

After that, music-lessons were for him too, and he was never far away when Nunnerl was at the harpsichord, but, perched on his father's knee, followed every movement and tone, and often played the lesson after from memory.

The next time the family removed from Munich, and the two children were presented to the court, and played before Francis I., the Emperor, to the wonder and delight of all who heard them.

Before Wolfgang was eight years old and Anna twelve, they had performed at the courts of Vienna, Paris, Munich and London. At Vienna they saw and played with the little Marie Antoinette, and Wolfgang shocked the fine court ladies by jumping into the lap of the empress for a kiss. He could play the works of Bach, Handel and other masters, and in England composed six sonatas, which he dedicated to the queen.

Returning to France, they travelled about in that country and in Holland, and Wolfgang played on the organs of most of the churches and monasteries.

One evening, being caught in a thunderstorm, they took shelter in a monastery.—The monks were at supper, and did not know of their guests' arrival. But soon, wonderful music began to steal into the hall from the chapel, sometimes sweet and sad, then wild and stormy; now a single voice with pleading tones, again a great chorus of response; now the rolling of the thunder and the booming of the wind, and, as these died away, a soft, clear, sunny strain, telling that the storm was over. The fathers were in great affright; one and another stole into the dark chapel to listen, and finally found themselves over and over to be sure they were all there. But at last a light was brought, the strangers were discovered, and Wolfgang greatly enjoyed their amazement, terror and delight. They could not believe it was he who had played such music, so far beyond what even brother Ambrose played—their fine musician. They thought it was a spell —an enchantment—a holy charm—a miracle. And when at last convinced he was a true child of God, they lavished the kindest hospitality on the Mozarts, and bade them God-speed on the morrow with many a blessing.

At the consecration of a church belonging to the Orphans' Home in Vienna, Mozart composed the music for the occasion, and conducted it, although only twelve years of age. At thirteen, he went to Rome with his father, and there, in the Sistine Chapel, he saw the grand painting of "The Last Judgment," which Michael Angelo had painted three hundred years before, he heard the wonderful music of "The Miserere."

This is only performed in Holy Week by the pope's choir, and no one has ever been allowed to have a copy of the music, or even to see it. But so astonishing was little Mozart's memory, that, on his return from the chapel, he not only wrote out the music correctly, but could also sing it perfectly—a feat which made him the musical wonder of the age.—*St. Nicholas.*

Never Waste Bread.

One day, about one hundred and thirty years ago, a young Scottish maiden was busy about her household affairs, when an aged stranger came to the door and asked permission to enter and rest, requesting at the same time something to eat. The young girl brought him a bowl of bread and milk, and tried in various ways to make him comfortable. A piece of bread happened to fall on the floor, and she pushed it out of the way into a heap of ashes. "Never waste bread!" cried the stranger, with much emotion, picking up the bread and putting it into his milk. "I have known the time when I would have given gold for a handful of corn kneaded in a soldier's bonnet." A quick suspicion crossed the girl's mind and sent her to the room of her invalid mother who, hastened to the kitchen on hearing the description of the old man with delicate hands and clean, coarse linen. In a moment she knew him to be the good Scottish lord on whose estate they were tenants. He had just returned from the battle of Culloden, where the young prince, Charles Edward, had been defeated by the royal troops. He and many others were obliged to fly for their lives. After being driven from one hiding-place to another, he at last found a safe retreat on a part of his estate where were large cairns, called the "cairns of Pitsligo." The lady who tells tells the story, says that "every one in the neighborhood knew of his residence." the very children would go peep at him as he sat reading, but would never breathe his name. "Nor," she adds, "shall I ever forget the lesson the poor fugitive taught me—never to waste bread."

Hans Christian Anderson.

Many children have read the fairy tales of the Danish writer, Hans Christian Anderson. A pleasant story of his childhood is told in a sketch of his life. Little Hans was one day with his mother and some other poor neighbors gleaning in a field of a man who was said to be very harsh and cruel.—They saw him coming and all started to run away. But Hans' clumsy wooden shoes came off; the stubble, or short stumps of the grain stalks which had been left by the reapers, hurt his tender feet, so that he could not keep up with the others and he found he must be caught. The rough owner of the field was very near, and could almost reach him with his heavy whip; when Hans, whose hopeless case now suddenly filled him with new courage, stopped and turned, and looking into the man's face, said: "How dare you strike me when God sees you?" The anger of his purquer was subdued at once. Instead of striking the boy, he gently stroked his cheeks, asked his name, and gave him some money. The truth of which little Hans had reminded him when about to do a cruel act, seemed to make him ashamed of it at once, and to cause him to speak and act kindly.

☞ An Indiana man made a bet that he could ride a fly-wheel in a saw mill; and as his widow paid the bet, she remarked, "William was a kind husband, but he didn't know much about fly-wheels."

☞ "Have you seen my black-faced antelope?" inquired Mr. Leoscope, who had a collection of animals, of his friend Bottlejack. "No, I haven't; who did your black-faced-aunt elope with?"

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